PUBLISHED MONTHLY—PRICE ANNAS 8.
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats and Daks, Places of Interest—Inland and along the Coast—Postal and Telegraphic Information, &c., &c., with a
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
The Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLISHED TWICE DAILY.

Bombay Gazette

THE TWELVE PAGES.

MORNING EDITION.

NESTLE'S CONDENSED MILK.
RICHEST AND CREAMY
UNTOUCHED BY HAND.

No. 54,367.—NEW SERIES.] BOMBAY:—SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1908. [PRICE: ONE ANNA.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

LIST OF DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY FOR MARSEILLES & LONDON

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Date of Sailing Saturday	Steamers.	Tons.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons
2-30 P.M.				
21st Mar.	CALEDONIA	7558	MOOLTAN	9621
28th „	PERSIA	7951		
4th Apr.	MARMORA	10509		
11th „	EGYPT	7912		
18th „	CALEDONIA	7558	MOLDAVIA	9900
25th „	MACEDONIA	10512		
2nd May	ORIENTAL	5294	HIMALAYA	6926
9th „	CALEDONIA	7558		
16th „	ORIENTAL	5284	MONGOLIA	9905
23rd „	ARABIA	7903		
30th „	ORIENTAL	5281	INDIA	7911
6th June	PERSIA	7951		
13th „	PENINSULAR	5294	VICTORIA	6322
20th „	OCEANA	6070		
27th „	PENINSULAR	5294	BRITANNIA	6325
4th July	EGYPT	7912		
11th „	CALEDONIA	7558	MOOLTAN	9621
18th „	PENINSULAR	5294		
25th „	CALEDONIA	7558	CHINA	7912

The above Steamers convey Passengers to Marseilles, Plymouth and London.

Passengers for Brindisi transhipp to a connecting steamer at Port Said.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with port of destination.

Tenders leave the BALLARD PIER on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 12 and 12-30 P.M., for Medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's Steam Barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of Passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA AND AUSTRALIA.

The Company's Steamers leave Bombay fortnightly, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the Straits, China and Japan and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

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PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
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LONDON AGENTS: GRINDLAY & Co.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels	Tons.	Captains.	To Sail on THURSDAY
CALEDONIEN	4,130	Martin	16th Apr. 1908.
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	14th May „
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Barillon	11th June „
OCEANIEN	4,148	Magnan	9th July. „
NERA	5,538	Schmitz	6th Aug. „
ARMAND BEHIC	6,385	Guiconet	3rd Sept. „
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	1st Oct. „

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS.

RETURN TICKETS can be made available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes and the Return Voyage by the American Lloyd's or the Navigazione General Italiana's at Reduced Fares.

TO AUSTRALIA DIRECT
AND THE FAR EAST, TRANSHIPPING AT COLOMBO.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captain	To Sail on or about
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Barillon	27th Mar 1908.
OCEANIEN	4,148	Magnan	24th Apr. „
NERA	5,538	Schmitz	22nd May „

For further Particulars apply to—

L. BRICARD,
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ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

TO JAPAN VIA SINGAPORE, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

Vessels	Tons.	Captain.	Arrival.	Departure. 1908
WAKAMIYA MARU	...	R. Yamawaki	10th Mar.	22nd Mar.
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	18th Mar.	1st April.
MOYORI MARU	...	Jas. Hands	31st Mar.	12th April.
YEDOSHI MARU	...	T. Kon	8th April	22nd April
HIOJUN MARU	...	T. Irisawa	21st April	3rd May.
TAKASAKI MARU	...	A. Mocker	29th April	13th May.
TOTOMI MARU	...	M. Winckler	12th May	24th May.
YETCHOFU MARU	...	K. Sato	20th May	3rd June.
KAGESHIMA MARU	...	T. Arakawa	2nd June	14th June.
WAKAMIYA MARU	...	H. Takeda	10th June	24th June.
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	23rd June	5th July.
MOYORI MARU	...	Jas. Hands	1st July	15th July.
YEDOSHI MARU	...	T. Kon	14th July	29th July
HIOJUN MARU	...	T. Irisawa	22nd July	5th Aug.,
TAKASAKI MARU	...	A. Mocker	4th Aug	16th Aug.
TOTOMI MARU	...	M. Winckler	12th Aug	26th Aug.

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Weekly from Victoria Dock Wall No. 14 Shed.

Steamers.	Tons.	Sailing Date.	Time.	Route.—Vis.
LINGA	2,170	Mon. 23rd Mar.	11 a. m.	P. D. & C.*
DUMRA	1,700	Thur. 26th Mar.	9 a. m.	Cutch Mandvie.
LHASA	2,170	Frid. 27th Mar.	6 a. m.	(direct).

* Via Porebunder, Dwarka and Cutch Mandvie.

FOR KARACHI AND PERSIAN GULF (Weekly).

S. S. "NERBUDDA," 3,025 tons, on MONDAY, 30th Mar., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Dwarka, Karachi, Pasni, Muksut, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Mahomera and Busreh.

FOR KARACHI AND BUSREH (Weekly).

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,700 tons, on THURSDAY, 26th Mar., calling (for Mails and Passengers) at Muscat, Bushire, and Mahomera and Koweit, also taking Passengers and cargo on through bookings to Ahwaz and Bagdad.

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S. S. "NOWSHERA," 3,024 tons, sailing on or about 28th Mar.

FOR RANGOON OR CALCUTTA (Direct).

Frequent sailings, for particulars of which, also as to onward connections to ports in Arracan, Burma, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Australia, and New Zealand.

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.,
Agents, BOMBAY.

20th March, 1908.

AUSTRIAN UNDER MAIL THE AUSTRIAN

LLOYD'S S. N. Co, CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENT.

DIRECT LINE TO TRIESTE

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on
AFRICA	4356	P. Badessich	1st April 1908.
IMPERATOR	4140	F. Mosca	16th April 1908.
KOERBER	5301	A. Foresti	1st May 1908.
BOHEMIA	4282	M. Dabcovich	16th May 1908.
AFRICA	4356	P. Badessich	1st June 1908.

ORDINARY LINE TO TRIESTE.

Steamers	Tons	Captain	To sail on or about.
AUSTRIA	7588	G. Gülhuber	28th Mar. 1908.
VORWAERTS	5990	B. Bednars	24th Apr. 1908.
PERSIA	5895	G. Bartole	25th May 1908.

* Will call at Karachi.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE, are available for two years.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards and other Routes.

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are issued, to Return either by Messageries Maritimes from Marseilles, or Navigazione Generale Italiana from Genoa or Naples to Bombay, or by North German Lloyd's from Genoa to Colombo, and vice versa.

Passengers to VENICE transhipp at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf, but during the Passengers Season (March April and May) all the steamers of the Direct Line will call on their Homeward voyage first at Venice and then at Trieste.

STEAM TO JAPAN via COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
CHINA	999	A. de Petris	25th Mar. 1908.

For further particulars regarding passages apply to the

AGENT GENERAL,
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Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

"CITY OF LONDON."

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

PASSENGERS by the above Steamer are requested to SEND their HEAVY BAGGAGE to the BALLARD PIR, not later than 3 p. m. on MONDAY, March 23rd, and their CABIN BAGGAGE by 9 A. M. on TUESDAY, March 24th, all distinctly marked with port of destination.

MEDICAL INSPECTION has been arranged for 12-30 P. M., on March 24th, at BALLARD PIER.

Passengers are WARNED that unless the above instructions are attended to, the Company cannot be responsible for any inconvenience or loss caused by their non-compliance.

KILLICK, NIXON & Co.,
Agents, Ellerman Lines, Limited.
Bombay, 17th March, 1908.

ANCHOR LINE.

REGULAR SAILINGS from BOMBAY to MARSEILLES & LIVERPOOL.

The following sailings have been arranged:—

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	Date.
SCINDIA	Shafto Atkinson	8,106	26th Mar 08.
CASTALIA		6,370	11th April „
BRITANNIA	R. J. Garey	3,049	19th „
MASSILIA	J. Thomson	5,031	14th May „
OLYMPIA	C.P. Osborne	R.N.R. 8,114	27th „ „
CIRCASSIA	Alex. Halcrow	6,716	14th June „
SCINDIA	Shafto Atkinson	8,106	23rd „ „
CASTALIA		6,300	13th July „

Bombay to Suez . . . . . Rs. 385
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Bombay to London from Marseilles and including 1st class rail ticket across the Continent . . . . . Rs. 653
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BOMBAY, *Manager.*

COMPARE

the Cost of Running a 6-cylinder Napier 5,000 miles (reckoning Fuel, Engine Oil and Tyres) with

The corresponding cost of ... ... { A well-known 4-cylinder British Car / A well-known 6-cylinder Foreign Car } for 5,000 miles.

Approximate cost in pence per mile.

	British 4-cylinder.	Foreign 6-cylinder.	British 6-cylinder Napier.
Oil (Engine)	·25	Not recorded.	·018
Fuel	1·50	2·01	·77
Tyres	5·77	4·55	2·11
Total	7·52	6·56	2·898

Cost for 5,000 miles ... ... { 6-cylinder Napier car... ... £ 60 11 10¼ / 4-cylinder British car ... ... £156 16 8 / 6-cylinder Foreign car ... ... £136 14 9 without oil.

The above figures constitute convincing proof of

Six-cylinder **NAPIER** Economy,

and are based entirely upon R.A.C Certificates for Oil, Fuel and Tyre Consumption, where the four-cylinder and foreign car are concerned. In regard to Napier tyre costs we have quoted from the results of six months' records, compiled by owners of six-cylinder Napier cars. We base our estimates upon the average mileage per tyre of the three cars that did best i.e. over 5,550 miles per tyre. These three cars all had heavy covered-in bodies. Napier fuel and oil consumption is based upon R. A. C. certificates. The cost of oil and fuel is reckoned at the same price in every case. Tyres at retail prices.

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Silver Reserve Fund	$ 13,500,000
Gold Reserve Fund	£ 1,500,000

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J. R. M. SMITH, *Chief Manager.*

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Agent.

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ESTABLISHED 1880

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Changchung	Lyons	San Francisco
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Dairen (Dalny)	Nagasaki	Tientsin
Hankow	Newchwang	Tientsin
Honolulu	New York	Tokyo
Hongkong	Osaka	
Kobe	Ryojun (Port Arthur)	
London		

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BOMBAY, 20TH MARCH, 1908.

NOTICE is hereby given that SOONDRABAI, the wife of MORESHWAR BALCRUSNA, of Bombay, Hindu inhabitant, has contracted TO SELL to our clients the undermentioned property. Any person or persons having any claim, right or title thereto or interest therein or to or in any part thereof either by way of inheritance, sale, gift, mortgage, charge, lease, lien, trust or otherwise, are hereby required to make the same known in writing to the Undersigned at their offices, Standard Building, Horaby Road, Fort, within 14 days from the date hereof, failing which the said sale will be completed without reference to any such claim or interest and the same, if any, will be treated as waived,

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WANTED.—The whereabouts of Mr. JOHN BATFIELD, last seen at the recent Dog Show, held on the Maidan. WHEELER, care of the Paper.

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LIFE INSURANCE.—Several copies of a postcard recently scattered over India, advertising children's Endowments have been sent by last week's mail to Mr. H. P. Henderson, I. C. S. retd., for advice. In every such case he has been able to show vastly better terms obtainable elsewhere upon identical conditions, and he strongly advises all persons who receive the said advertisement to pause and put their case before him before taking out a Policy. Mr. Henderson's advice is available on the conditions, copy of which can be obtained on application to Mr. HENDERSON whose address is 42, Leinster Gardens, London, W.

NOTICE to CYCLISTS.—Messrs. WALTER LANE & Co., European Cyclists of Church Gate Street, have removed from their present premises to "MAHOMED BUILDING" Hornby Road, next door to Paris-India from 1st November, 1907.

RAJA DEEN DAYAL & SONS' ART PHOTOGRAPHIC SALON. The largest and leading in the East, no expense or trouble spared. Luxuriously provides for the convenience and demands of Constituents. A visit is earnestly solicited to Cox's Building (Top Floor), Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

SEEDS! SEEDS!—Vegetable and Flower for the Coming Season. Fresh supply received every Third Week.—PALSEAR and Co., Sitaram Buildings, Near Crawford Market, Bombay.

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TO BE LET from 1st May, the commodious FIRST FLOOR of Bungalow, "Sehoen House," opposite Y. M. C. Association, Wodehouse Road. For rent apply to Mr. P. M. MURZBAN, care of Messrs. Gadhum and Co., Churchgate Street.

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WANTED.—A native LADY DOCTOR, L. M. & S., to attend a Charitable Dispensary for Hindu Ladies, from 1 to 4 P. M. daily. Apply with particulars as to age, experience, the year of attaining the degree and salary expected, to Box No. 686, care of the "Bombay Gazette."

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SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
No. 7, MARINE STREET.
BONA FIDE SALE.
Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, on a date to be fixed hereafter, at "Mount Ida," Anstey Road, Altamont, Cumballa Hill, the property of George McKenzie, Esqr :—
Handsome Dining, Drawing and Bed Room Furniture, very handsome extra large carved and polished teak sideboard with special trays for table linen, drawer lined Green baize for table, silver and fitted drawer to receive full service for 24 persons, carved side table to match, telescope dining table and 12 carved armchairs to match.
Very handsome selected figured teak polished Bedroom suite consisting of large Wardrobe with mirror, hanging press, drawers and cupboard with jewel tray, dressing table with drawers and cupboard to match. Large hanging cupboard with deep drawers below to match, and small corner cupboard to match.
Lady's writing table with folding writing slope cupboards for stationary and shelf for books.
Handsome and useful drawingroom cosy corner in polished blackwood with spring seats, settee chair and corner cupboards, with glass doors and glass shelves, lined plush.
Boudoir Grand Piano by Bluthner, &c., etc.
The property will be on view 4 day before the sale.
CRAWFORD & Co.
BOMBAY, 21ST MARCH, 1908.

BENNETT & COMPANY,
No. 23, APOLLO STREET.
AUCTION SALE OF RACE HORSES.
THIS DAY, SATURDAY, the 21st instant, at 8-30 A.M. (S.T.), Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will, under instructions from the representatives of the late Mr. Joosub Jacob, sell by Public Auction, in the front of the Race Course, Mahalaxmi, the following very valuable race horses :—
No. 1. 1 1/2 Share in "Mahara" winner of several races.
2. 1 "Mansoon" do. do.
3. 1 "Almas" do. do.
4. 1 "Electric," has run in ra
5. 1 "Last Try" do.
6. 1 Brown Australian mare.
The horses can be seen in front of the Race Course on the day of sale, and [illegible] A.M. (S.T.)
BENNETT & Co.
BOMBAY, 21ST MARCH, 1908.

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NOTICE
MRS. JAMES LEASK (formerly of Bombay) having REMOVED from Edinburgh to "Elmswood," 52, Crystal Palace Park Road, Sydenham, London, S. E., will be glad to TAKE ENTIRE CHARGE of Superintend the Education of CHILDREN of those parents are in India and abroad. Particulars apply *Bombay Gazette Office.*

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HYDERABAD NOTES.

During the month of Safar of the Hijri year, which follows Mohorrum or the Month of Mourning there is a practice amongst wealthy Shiah Mahomedans to have recited in their homes the history of the life and death of Hossain, the son of Ali, who was the husband of Fatima, the beloved daughter of the Prophet Mahomed, for which purpose a "Marcia Khan," who is either a self-made or born elegiac poet, is invited and handsomely paid—in some instances, his remuneration is fixed at Rs/ 1,000 or more per diem. After the conditions of payment are agreed upon, the "Marcia Khan" arrives at the scene of his labours with a set of compositions written in verse, which he recites with such pathos and expression that he is able to draw the tears and lamentations of his more emotional auditors. During the recitation, there is not a stir or whisper to cause distraction; and the reader intersperses his discourse with quotations from the Koran to stimulate religious enthusiasm. Indeed, he performs his part with great variations of tragic and dramatic effect, which, amongst the Faithful assembled to hear him produce demonstrations of anguish and frenzy to an extent that it is impossible to conceive unless witnessed. Ordinarily, the "Majlis" or Meeting continues for a period of ten days, the first one this year having been held as usual by Nawab Fiaz Ali Khan in his beautiful mansion opposite the Government Telegraph Office, on the Chudderghaut Residency Road. It began on the 1st Safar, corresponding with the 5th March current. The "Marcia Khan," who is now here, hails from Lucknow, and is popularly known as the son of the famous Indian Poet, Moulvie Mirza Dabir. The very mention of his name attracts people, and therefore it is no wonder that every "Majlis" was numerously attended, the "elite" being amongst those present. It is important to note that the Sunis without scruple take part in these public Shiah demonstrations; and what is more commendable is that there is, far from any disturbance, not even a rhetorical disagreement or an exhibition of angry sentiment between these two rival sects of Islam. I am induced to make this comment purely from a sense of admiration of what I witnessed. It may be of interest to add that last year the Nizam was pleased to grace the occasion with his presence and mixed in the crowd almost *incog.* His Highness repeated this condescension on his part last Wednesday (the 11th instant), clad in a very plain suit, having motored up to Nawab Fiaz Ali's bungalow, followed by a couple of ordinary attendants, and he quietly and unostentatiously took his place in the assembly as would any private individual.

***

Colonel G. H. D. Gimlette, C.I.E., I.M.S., has retired from the Hyderabad Residency Surgeoncy and from the service, and has been succeeded by Major Robertson, I.M.S., who has already arrived from Indore; and, in company with Colonel Gimlette, he inspected last Thursday the Residency and Afzul gunj hospitals. If appearances count for anything, Major Robertson's tenure of office will be a success; but it is said that the latter will be only the Director of the Medical Department of H. H. Nizam's Government, and that Major Drake-Brockman will be Residency Surgeon. I do not vouch for the accuracy of this statement; but I believe that it is settled that the aforesaid branches of the Medical Department will have two independent heads instead of one as hitherto. There appears to be wisdom in the contemplated innovation, as experience has shown the utter failure that has resulted in delegating a multiplicity of duties to one man, ever so much of a genius though he may be. Of Colonel Gimlette, it must be said that he carries with him both the blessings and regrets of everybody. To say that he was a kind man and good, is naught else than to assert a cold platitude. The most interesting characteristic he shewed during his stay in Hyderabad was an absolute absence of the penchant to dabble in politics and the yearning for out-door practice, which have attached—in one case at least—to the office he has just vacated: he spurned both, and there is not one who does not wish the good old gentleman every happiness in his well-merited *otium cum dignitate*. Colonel Gimlette left Hyderabad this morning on a visit to Indore *en route* to England.

***

Lieutenant J. E. B. Scrafton, I. A., Officiating Assistant Cantonment Magistrate, Secunderabad, has been vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the First Class within the limits of the said Cantonment, with the additional power to try summarily all the offences provided for in Section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

***

Mr. Sakaram Adhikari has been confirmed in the appointment of Civil Judge of Secunderabad; and, though a section of the local pleaders is quite jubilant over it, the "confirmation" has not received general approval. I am fully conscious of the righteous sentiment that seeks to temper justice with mercy, but that virtue becomes a fault when too much of leniency is allowed to predominate. I have cogent reasons for saying that if a scrutiny be made of the Court records, it will be found that there have been more adjournments than judgments, which may imply a waste of time or alternatively that there is too much work for one man to cope with. It is, however, an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and Mr. Adhikari has a right to congratulate himself on the success that the Fates have ordained for him.

***

Mr. J. J. Ottley, Assistant Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Branch, H. E. H. Nizam's P. W. D., having obtained three months' privilege leave, proceeded last Monday to Khandalla for change of air. It is supposed that this is the preparatory step to his retirement on pension, as it is improbable that he will be gazetted as the successor of Mr. Perram after the lapse of the latter's term of service, in face of the fact that within the past year a good number of officials have been made to dance on the tight-rope of the 55-year rule. At the time it became known that Mr. Ottley was to be superseded by an outsider who had retired from the British Service, a hue and cry was raised in the then local newspapers, and, if my memory serves me well, I think the "Hyderabad Chronicle" took up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Ottley. As an Irrigation Engineer, Mr. Ottley was admittedly second to none; but he was more or less ignored in the race simply to appease the gods of Hyderabad. Perhaps, justice would still be vindicated if Mr. Ottley were confirmed as Superintending Engineer and then allowed to retire; for while he deserves it, right and justice demand it—if such considerations are ever to rule events in Hyderabad.

***

Now that Mr. Seaton has returned from a year's furlough, the question arises as to who will be confirmed as Director of Public Instruction. As a temporary measure, Dr. Sirajul Hasan, M.A., L.L.B., has held the office since the retirement of Nawab Imad-ul-Mulk. It behoves the Nizam's Government to have a strong man at the helm of Educational affairs, and unless the present incumbent is confirmed, I have no hesitation in asserting that the only suitable selection that could be made is between Messrs. Seaton and Sturge, the former having the prior claim under all circumstances: he has often officiated as Director during the absence of the permanent incumbent, while his experience, seniority, pay and position—to say nothing of attainments—all go in his favour. Why, then, is he being undermined? I answer, principally because there are those on the Educational Board who do not wish to have a man whose personality and independence of spirit would be a gigantic obstacle in their way when favours are to be dispensed or details of administration are to be discussed. The late Mr. A. C. Rudra, Barrister-at-Law, about eighteen years ago, openly avowed in Court that "justice in Hyderabad was a toss-up." I affirm that the educational system is little better than a badly acted and ill-timed farce.

***

About five years ago a Mr. Abdulla Baig, Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction was placed under suspension on certain charges, and a Commission was appointed to inquire into the matter, who, after a laborious investigation, extending over two years, submitted a report to Government. That report was kept under consideration for an equal number of years, and only the other day the award was proclaimed, that Mr. Abdulla Baig had been punished by the forfeiture of a whole year's salary and that for the remainder of the period he was under suspension he had been adjudged deserving of half pay, besides being entitled to retire from the service on pension.

***

The Minister entertained Colonel Gimlette at a farewell breakfast last Thursday morning, covers being laid for forty. Included amongst the guests were the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Bayley, Captains Minchin, Shakespear, and Macnabb, Nawab Faridoon Jung, Mr. G. Casson Walker, and Nawab Khedive Jung. After breakfast Colonel Gimlette bade "good-bys" to the Minister.

ICHABOD.

THE WEATHER.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, MARCH 20.

The depression from Persia has given light rain in Baluchistan and appears to have remained stationary, but a second area of low pressure was lying over the Konkan Coast yesterday which is probably associated with first; it moved slightly eastward. The disturbance caused a general rise in temperature in North-West India, and the Central Provinces, and duststorms may now be expected in these areas. Several thunderstorms occurred in Deltaic Bengal and the Peninsula. Burma, Mergui had half an inch of rain. The skies are almost clear and humidity and temperature approximately normal. In North-East India, Orissa, Jessore reports three inches of rain and Bardwan light fall. Cloud is reported from a few stations but over the greater part of the division skies are clear and the air drier than usual in Eastern Bengal and Assam. The temperature is normal. In the United Provinces, Central India and the Central Provinces cloud has appeared in the south-western districts and the skies remain clear elsewhere. The humidity is normal or in defect and the temperature normal. In North-West India a light rain has fallen in Baluchistan, Chaman recording half an inch. The skies are heavily overcast in Baluchistan and lightly clouded in the Indus valley and parts of Kashmir and clear elsewhere. The moisture in airis in large excess in Baluchistan, Sind and South-West Gujarat and normal or in defect in the rest of North-West India. The temperature was risen and is in moderate excess except in lower Sind and the eastern districts.

In the Peninsula, Belgaum had light fall of rain and cloud appeared in the north-western districts. The skies are lightly clouded in parts of Madras. The humidity and temperature are nearly normal. The forecast states that there is a possibility of further rain in Baluchistan and a few thunderstorms are probable in North-East India and the northern half of Peninsula. Duststorms may occur in North-West and Central India.

STANDARD BAROMETER READING.

The following informations published in order that the vessels in the Bombay Harbour may, by comparision with a standard instrument, ascertain the errors of their barometers.

The reading of the barometer at the Colaba observatory corrected for index error and reduced to 32° F. and for Calcutta standard at 8 a.m. (local time on the 20th March 1903 was 29·94 inches. The height of observatory barometer cistern above zero of tide gauge at Apollo Bunder is 5 feet The height of tide in the stream above zero of the tide guge at Apollo Bunder was 8 feet at 8 a. m. (local time) The temperature correction for a mercurial barometer, supposing the reading to be 30·00 inches and that of attached thermometer 80° F. will be 14 inches, and this will be higher and lower by ·01 inch for each 4 degrees. In the case of aneroid no temperature correction required. Should the height of barometer cistern, either mercurial or aneroid, above zero of tide gauge be different from 47 feet, it will read higher of lower by ·01 inch for each 11 feet, The readings given above are distinct from those given in the daily weather report to which different corrections have been applied.

BOMBAY DAILY WEATHER REPORT FOR THE 20TH MARCH, 1908.

Summary of observations recorded at 8 hours on Friday, the 20th March, giving data for the preceding 24 hours.

Punjab.—Skies are moderately clouded at Multan Rawalpindi and Lahore and the air is slightly damper than usual at Ambala and Delhi. Winds are southerly or south-easterly at Multan, Lahore, Sirsa and Ambala and south-westerly at Delhi while Rawalpindi recorded calm. Temperature during day had been 5° to 9° hotter than usual everywhere while last night's minimum was 4° to 6° in excess of normal at Multan, Rawalpindi and Lahore and 2° to 3° in defect at Sirsa and Ambala.

United Provinces.—Skies are free from cloud and the air is slightly damper than usual at Agra and drier elsewhere. The direction of air movement is easterly at Jhansi and Allahabad and southerly at Mainpuri while Agra and Cawnpore recorded calms. The maximum had been 1° to 6° in excess of normal generally while during night temperature was 4° cooler than usual at Cawnpore and Allahabad.

Sind and Rajputana.—Skies are moderately clouded in Sind where the air has become slightly damper than usual. Winds are southerly at Jacobabad and north easterly at Jaipur while Karachi and Ajmer recorded calms. The maximum had been 3° to 5° in excess of normal at Jacobabad, Ajmer and Jaipur and the weather during the night time was 5° to 10° warmer than usual at Jacobabad and Ajmer.

Gujarat, Kathiawar and Central India West.—Skies are overcast at Indore and lightly or moderately cloud d in several other places and the quantity of moisture in the atmosphere is slightly or moderately above the average at Bhuj, Veraval, Bhavnagar Para, Deesa and Indore. North-westerly or north-easterly winds are blowing in most places. The maximum has been 3° to 4° above the average at Surat and Neemuch while during night temperature was 5° cooler than usual at Bhuj.

Central Provinces.—Skies are overcast at Khandwa and lightly or moderately clouded at Sangor, Akola and Amraoti while the air is considerably drier than usual in several places. Easterly or south-easterly winds and calms prevail over the greater part of the district. The day temperature had been 2° to 3° in excess of normal at most places while last night's minimum was 5° to 8° in excess of normal at Chanda, Saugor and Amraoti and 5° in defect at Raipur.

Konkan.—Skies are lightly or moderately clouded at Bombay, Ratnagiri and Mormugao and humidity has increased slightly in all places. Winds are northerly at Bombay, Mormugao and Ratnagiri while Karwar recorded calm. Variations of both the maximum and minimum temperature are small and somewhat irregular.

Bombay Deccan and Hyderabad.—Rain in light showers fell at Belgaum and skies are more or less cloud d almost everywhere and the air has been slightly damper than usual at Hyderabad. Winds blow from the northerly or north-westerly direction at Malegaon, Ahmednagar and Poona, from the southerly direction at Sholapur and Bijapur and from easterly direction at Aurangabad while calms are recorded elsewhere. Weather during day had been 3° to 4° hotter than usual at Ahmednagar and Bijapur and yesterday's minimum was 4° to 9° in excess of normal at Ahmednagar Poona and Sholapur.

General Remarks.—Weather is likely to remain more or less clouded over the reporting area.

N. LESLIE,
Meteorologist, Bombay.

THE "ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL" ENDOWMENT FUND.

An Appeal.

Chairman—Sir Walter Hughes, Kt., C.I.E., Committee—Lt.-Col. Collie, I.M.S., Capt. Novis, I.M.S Messrs. H. E. E. Proctor, J. P. Chrystal, D. Carmichael J. G. H. Collister, F. York Smith, Rev. H. Foote and L. H. Savile, Hon. Secretary. The Khandalla Convalescent Home offers unique advantages to European convalescent patients from all parts of the Presidency, besides being a very useful adjunct to the St. George's and other European Hospitals in providing a comfortable home in a comparative cool and healthy climate, and the Committee feel sure that its present needs have only to be made known for them to receive the additional support that is now required. During the past season the following patients were admitted to the Home:—Men 191, women 113, children 88, St. George's Hospital nurses 24. Of these 44 were admitted free on Subscribers' tickets. The Lady Superintendent reports that all, except two cases, who had to return to Hospital, showed a marked improvement in health as the result of their visit. After a recent visit to the home by Lieut.-Col. Collie, I.M.S., Physician in charge of the St. George's Hospital, he reported that in his opinion several additions and alterations were necessary, the chief being additional servants' quarters and new bath-rooms for the children's wing; the estimated cost for which would amount, with other minor alterations, to Rs. 3,000. The Committee having considered the proposals agreed that they were now urgently needed and have instructed the Honorary Secretary to make an urgent appeal to the European community of Bombay for the sum of Rs. 3,000 in order to carry out these very necessary additions. This appeal is accordingly circulated in the hope that all Europeans will assist, as far as possible, to carry out this work either by a donation or an annual subscription.

L. H. SAVILE,
Honorary Secretary.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION.

THE AUTUMN SESSION.

The "Pioneer":—The statement of the "Times" that the Government besides having decided to curtail the Easter and Whitsuntide holidays has resolved to hold an autumn session is probably nothing more than an intelligent anticipation. It seems very unlikely that the Government would have definitely made up its mind to the unwelcome expedient of an autumn session thus early in the year. That last resource of an overloaded Legislature is rarely adopted until the eleventh hour when the state of public business discloses no choice between carrying on work with a fagged House over the month of August or a couple of months adjournment with a resumption in mid-October. It is full soon in the day for a Ministry with a huge majority and navigating in exceptionally placid waters to have made up its mind that it will be confronted with a hopeless block of business before the session draws to an end; and the present Government has special reasons for trying to take an optimistic view of the situation as long as possible. After having put the reform of procedure in the forefront of its programme, on the ground that it would expedite all the other good measures that were to follow, it would be strange indeed if it were to seize the first opportunity of gratuitously announcing that it has no hopes that procedure reform will do anything to improve the congestion of business. What purpose, the world will immediately ask, was a great part of last year's session devoted to forcing though a number of radical alterations in procedure if before the following Easter it is to be admitted that they will be of no effect? Is the system of Grand Committees, which was to be the saving or the ruin of the House of Commons, according to the politics of the speaker, to be declared a simple nullity before it has had a year's trial?

A SUPERFLUOUS UNDER SECRETARY.

The "Indian Daily News":—Lord Curzon's second complaint against His Majesty's Government had reference to the non-representation of the India Office in the House of Lords. We are rather disposed to sympathise with his Lordship. We protested against the appointment first of Mr. Ellis, and next of Mr. Hobhouse, as under-Secretary for India, as being unfair to India. The Secretary of State for India has a Permanent Under Secretary at the India Office. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary is obviously out of place in the same House as that in which the Principal Secretary sits. At any rate the intention with which the office was created is defeated if both are made to sit in the same House. As Lord Curzon points out the great external departments of the State—the Foreign, the Colonial, and the Indian offices—ought to be represented in the House of Lords. If such representation is unnecessary—whether for the reason that the House of Lords does not count or for the reason that India is not important enough to require separate representation—then the office of Parliamentary Under-Secretary should be abolished and the cost saved to India. As Lord Curzon admits, the practice was departed from by Lord George Hamiliton for a time. But the Liberals have not only made a "settled fact" of it but improved upon it by sending the Parliamentary Under Secretary out of England for months together! Eord Elgin attempted a sort of reply to Lord Curzon. In effect, he maintained that as there were two ex-Viceroys of India, besides Lord Beauchamp, one or both or all three of whom were available whenever Indian questions had to be dealt with, it was not necessary to insist upon the India Office being regularly represented in the House of Lords. That is not the point. The point is why India should pay for a superfluous Under-Secretary.

THE AMERICAN MAHRATTI MISSION.

The "Statesman":—This year's Report of the American Mahratti Mission in Western India proves that the Mission is maintaining its high reputation for successful industrial enterprise. This work at Ahmednagar is under the charge of Mr. D.C. Churchill, B. S. C., M. E., who has devoted special attention to weaving, on the ground that next to farming, it is the most important industry in India. Failing to find a loom suitable for the needs of his training school, Mr. Churchill invented one which gained the first prize in the largest competition of its kind yet held in India. Although it became at once popular and is now largely in demand, Mr. Churchill was dissatisfied with it, as it only produced coarse cloth, of about a yard in width. So he has now devised another loom which eliminates the chief defect of the old one and is adaptable to almost all the kinds of cloth that India produces. It is hoped that it will cover all the remaining fields in handweaving, and work sufficiently rapidly to compete with the power mills in those fields where hand-woven cloth is at a premium. The rate of production is twice as fast as in the old loom, and is estimated at fifty yards in eighty hours. This should certainly give a great impetus to hand-loom weaving. In Bengal villages one may see a man sitting in a hole dug in the ground on the shady side of the house, with his old-fashioned loom in front of him, toiling all day and producing at the most a couple of yards of cloth. Mr. Churchill is applying for a patent for his new loom, not to restrict its general introduction, but to protect himself from the possibility of being deprived of its control and use by imitators.

THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

The "Madras Mail":—The members of the Central Committee of the Pasteur Institute of Southern India, which was established at Coonoor early in 1907, have now been able to present an encouraging Report on the operations of the Institute during last year. The Institute has been partly built and equipped with the help of a generous gift of Rs. 1 lakh placed at the disposal of H. E. Lord Curzon by Mr. Henry Phipps, of the United States of America, and which was transferred by Lord Curzon to the Madras Government for the specific object of the Institute. The Government of Madras also liberally allotted funds to supplement Mr. Phipp's donation, which have enabled the Institute to start work under promising circumstances. The Director of the Institute is Captain J. W. Cornwall, I.M.S., whose previous record as Health Officer to the Madras Corporation and Deputy Sanitary Commissioner to the Government of Madras and his special training at the Kasauli Institute, eminently fitted him for the office.

During the period under report 186 cases were admitted for treatment, which Captain Cornwall reports were successful in every instance. The patients came from this Presidency, the Nizam's Dominions, Ceylon, Bombay, the Mysore Province, Burma, Bengal and even from federated Malay States, and included 32 Europeans, 28 Eurasians and 125 Asiatics. The ordinary course of treatment extends over a period of fourteen days, which in cases of severe bites is extended to eighteen days. The results achieved during the short period the institute has been in existence justify the wisdom and foresight of those who were instrumental in bringing about its establishment in South India. Not only this but the success of the step which has been taken in this Presidency and the numbers which have sought admission into the Institute from other Provinces point to the desirability of establishing other similar provincial institutions, in order to bring the benefits of the Pasteur treatment within easy reach of the people there. The Coonoor Institute is resorted to by the members of the European, Anglo-Indian and Indian communities, and as it is a private institution, managed by a Committee which depends on the subscriptions of the public for its upkeep, it has a special claim for support from the several communities and public bodies in the country. An annual subcription of Rs. 5 with an entrance fee of Rs. 5 makes a person eligible for membership of the Association and entitles those who require it to free treatment, at the central or any branch establishment of the Association, by inoculation against rabies or any other disease, so far as the Association, may be in a position to afford such treatment. The Central Committee, which comprises leading representatives of all communities, makes an appeal to the public for financial help to establish the Institute on a permanent basis and to extend its scope of usefulness, and we sincerely trust that a generous response will be made to the appeal by the public and by Local Boards and Municipal bodies.

THE following amusing letter by a Hindu is published in the "Indian Planters Gazette":—"Respected Sir,—As my son is much sick and about to die, but I have got an advice from several persons that if he will see a duck will get perfect cure, so I request your honour to lend me one of your ducks, must be male sex for a day only for the said purpose; I will send back duck to-morrow and will be much obliged if you will let me have the he thing asked for."

THE LADIES' CORNER.

AN ECHO OF THE "DRESS IMPROVER."

Looking back to the era when the tight-fitting gown last made its appearance and was unmercifully lampooned and caricatured by the wits of the day, one cannot but recall the fact that the dress improver made its appearance at that critical moment, so to speak, and carried all before it for a period when good taste and good sense seem to have lain dormant. It is hardly likely that this odious adjunct to the toilette will ever again obtain a real standing or assume the important place in the dress scheme which it did in those days, but there is no denying that some unmistakeable example of the genus "dress improver" have found their way into Paris, and are being exhibited tentatively and apologetically. In spite of this, women in general are devoutly hoping and trustfully promising themselves that the couturieres of to-day, with their enlightened views, will never again insist on these additions to the toilette, or allow them to develop beyond a purely elementary form.

THE GARDEN OF THE MILLINER.

While waiting for the new spring models in dresses, milliners seem to be engaged in the business of jumbling up the various months of the coming spring and summer in the matter of their straw models. Spring hats usually make their appearance earlier in Paris than in London, and this year no attempt at a "system" has been made with regard to the flowers which adorn the new shapes. In a single atelier the millinerial flora crowded together in brilliant-hued profusion included a selection of large tulips, tiny campanulæ, huge white dandelion clocks, scarlet geraniums, auriculas, the little blue forget-me-not, monstrous orange marigolds, as well as large carnations, not to speak of a harvest of Shirley poppies and small multi-coloured pansies. For instance, huge purple tulips adorned a hat of mauve tulle campanulas and crimson ramblers blossomed gaily on a soft Saxe blue model, while life-like heads of pink and scarlet geraniums embedded in their own foliage made summer on a sailor hat of geranium-green straw, and white and mauve hyacinths almost completely hid the soft folds of moss-green tulle which decorated one of the turbans. It is curious, too, to note the arrangement of the majority of rose-trimmed hats, the blossoms themselves being placed symmetrically round the crown, while a huge bush of leaves, tight-shut buds, thorny twigs, and unpruned "suckers" rears itself high up on the left side, and suggests that some unmerciful hand has been committing depredations on the trellis or pergola. In some instances the tall crown is encircled with an overlapping covering of rose leaves, with little knots of rosebuds breaking the stiff uniformity; while everything depends on the colour scheme nowadays, one of the most popular alliances consisting of huge bunches of Nattier blue velvet roses on a hat of the softest cinnamon straw.

"PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN ICE."

MR. ELWORTHY, C. I. E., of Calcutta, at a farewell dinner upon his return to England after forty-three years in India, indulged in some curiously interesting reminiscences on Tuesday evening. He said amazing changes had taken place during the past 4 decades. The great factor in those changes had been the enormous extension of the railway system as a means of communication. It was in 1853 that Lord Dalhousie issued his famous minute which recognised their necessity, but progress was slow. Twelve years later there were only 800 miles open against 30,000 of the present day. In the sixties there was no outcry for wagons! Transport was effected by the great water-ways of the country—the Ganges, Jumna, Indus, Brahmaputra and by the Grand Trunk Road. Now the country was a net-work of railways and trade had increased enormously. At the time of his arrival Calcutta was not the place one would have specially selected for an enjoyable existence: they had open surface drains, there were no water-works and no ice machines. For their ice supply they had to depend upon one single ship, which brought once a year the produce of the Wenham Lake in America. He recollected the time when gun-sels invited to dinner were often asked to bring a supply of ice with them, inasmuch as the amount supplied to one individual was restricted to one or two seers, and, as a natural consequence, all sorts of dodges were resorted to in order to evade the restriction. For their drinking water they had to depend upon contaminated and microbe laden tanks and wells. Nights were hideous and unbearable by the vagaries of the punkah coolv, and tempers were not improved by the profuse use of profanity which followed. In those days a journey to England was an event to be prepared for a long while ahead. Their conditions of life were revolutionised and Calcutta was no longer a place to be avoided. They had heard something of the Calcutta Improvement scheme. It was still on the Imperial anvil. Whatever the Calcutta scheme might be they might with advantage look to Bombay for guidance. Improvements there were more towards new buildings than old ones and in the direction of private enterprise. If they took Hornby and Wodehouse Roads they found new buildings uniform in size and style in wide streets. Money was thus spent and with something to show for it. Opening out main streets in congested parts might be useful, but it cost enormous sums with after all rather doubtful advantage.

THE AKBAR MANUFACTURING AND PRESS COMPANY.

The following is the Directors' report of the Akbar Manufacturing and Press Company for the year 1907:—

Your Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders their Annual Report on the working of the Company, along with the Audited Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account of the Company made up to 31st December.

The working of the Company has resulted in a net profit of Rs. 83,746-14-10, which, with a balance of Rs. 6,403-12-5 brought forward from the last year's account, makes up a total sum of Rs. 90,150-11-3 to the credit of Profit and Loss Account, which result, your Directors' trust, you will regard more satisfactory, in comparison with that of the previous years.

Your Directors wish to appropriate the sum of Rs. 90,150-11-3 standing to the credit of the Profit and Loss Account, constituted in para 2 as follows:—Payment of Dividend at Rs. 225 per Share at 30 per cent. (Free of Income-tax) Rs. 45,000, carrying to Reserve Fund Rs. 10,000, carrying to Machinery Depreciation Fund Rs. 10,000, carrying to Building Depreciation Fund Rs. 10,000, carrying to bad debts fund Rs. 6,000, carrying to Fire Insurance Fund 1,000, carrying to Company's Servants' Gratuity Fund Account Rs. 250, distributing bonus to the employees of the Company Rs. 1,000, balance to be carried forward to next year's account Rs. 6,900-11-3.—Total Rs. 90,150-11-3.

The fact of the cotton crop being scanty this year owing to lack of rain in the latter part of the monsoons, will go against the working of the mofussil branches this year. Furthermore, mill-owners having purchased raw cotton in our mofussil branches, and taken the same to neighbouring districts, have made the condition of our mofussil branches still worse and consequently your Directors apprehend that the mofussil branches will show a poor profit during the current year.

Your Directors feel pleasure to state that the Company's Bombay Press Factory has been doing satisfactory business for the last two years. As stated in the last year's Report, your Directors have made extra accommodation for storing merchants' stuff and are still making further accommodation by rebuilding the katcha-built roof into a pucca one, with a storey thereon, at a cost of about Rs 15,000.

Your Directors are glad to report that the Wool-Cleaning Joint Working Agreement which expired on 31st December 1907, has been renewed for a further term of three years.

With a view to avoid competition with the Bagmar Press, erected last season in close proximity to Khandwa, all the Press-owners at Khandwa have joined into a combination with the proprietor of the Bagmar Press for a period of five years, from 16th December 1907.

To guard against contingencies, your Directors thought it advisable to insure the annual profit of the Company for Rs. 57,795 in the Cornhill Insurance Co., Ltd Your Directors further inform you that all the Presses with their premises etc., have been fully insured for a total sum of Rs. 4,33,663 for the next year.

Your Directors beg to inform you that out of the heavy outstanding due from the Khandwa merchants in previous years, they have recouped all the money, except Rs. 5,166-2-0 only, for which suits have been filed in the Court of Khandwa.

LUXURY FOR THE SKIN.

"THE ALBION MILK and SULPHUR SOAP is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the skin," writes Lady Constance Howard. Countess of Westmeath says:—"It gives much satisfaction." The ALBION MILK and SULPHUR SOAP is a highly agreeable and beneficial Luxury for the Toilet, Bath and Nursery and leaves the Skin in a pure, refreshed and healthy condition. Delicately perfumed. Chemists, Grocers, etc., sell it.

THE MEMORY MAN

Brain Fag, Exhaustion, Neuralgia—

The man who *never* forgets! Is it possible there can be such a man—one who remembers everything? We suppose it does not ordinarily occur to readers what a tremendous advantage a *reliable* memory gives them, how even their very abilities, friendships, and attainments could not be continued *without a good memory*! That extraordinary "memory" man, Datas, who can instantly give the date of any notable occurrence in the history of the world, says he has been accustomed for the last six years to arm himself against loss of memory, and *prevent nervous exhaustion* and mental fatigue by a methodical use of Phosferine. *Nervous exhaustion*, says Datas, is always followed by loss of memory, and the only way to speedily remedy or prevent the condition is to *renew the nerve forces* with a course of Phosferine. As Datas is paid a very large income to demonstrate his marvellous feats of memory, his striking testimony to the efficacy of the great nerve specific, is just that *practical* evidence which every reasoning worker seeks for and instantly appreciates.

How Datas defies them.

Datas, the extraordinary "memory" man, writes:—"I find Phosferine the best tonic in the world—there is nothing like it for dispelling brain-fag. As you are probably aware, my income is derived from the exercise of an absolutely perfect memory, and after several hours of committing dates and facts to memory I naturally feel mentally exhausted, but Phosferine soon puts me right. I also consider Phosferine an excellent preventive of such nervous disorders as neuralgia and sciatica. You can publish my testimonial as much as you like and as long as you like. I have used Phosferine for the past six years and am quite convinced that there is not a better nerve tonic for the brain worker anywhere."—December 17, 1907.

PHOSFERINE

The Greatest of all Tonics.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Nervous Debility	Neuralgia	Lassitude	Brain-Fag
Influenza	Premature Decay	Exhausion	Rheumatism
Indigestion	Backache	Stomach Disorders	Headache
Sleeplessness	Mental Exhaustion	Faintness	Hysteria

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

The Remedy of Kings.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.I.M. the Dowager Empress of Russia
H.I.M. the Emperor of China
And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the world.

Proprietors: Ashton & Parsons, Ltd., La Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill, London, England.
Price in Great Britain, bottles, 1/1½, 2/9 and 4/6. Sold by all Chemists, Stores, &c.
The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

Wholesale Agents:—
Messrs. J. A. KIRKBRIDE & Co. 60, Tamarind Lane, BOMBAY.

Have you wish your children to be healthy and strong, as of course you do, feed them on "NESTLÉ'S MILO MALTED FOOD"—Delicious, wholesome and nourishing, and containing every ingredient necessary to their perfect growth.

Sample and pamphlet free on application to
TOTHILL SHARP & Co., Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay.

WRITES IN SIGHT, RELIABLE, STRONG, SIMPLE IN CONSTRUCTION, and therefore EASILY KEPT IN ORDER.

THE 'EMPIRE' TYPEWRITER.

PRICE, Foolscap Size, 250 Rs.

Some Users: H.M. GOVERNMENT 1,000 Machines. CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY 900 Machines. &c., &c.

Agents: Continental Commercial Depot, 53, Esplanade, Fort, Bombay.

JOSEPH EVANS & SONS,
(WOLVERHAMPTON), LTD.,
CULWELL WORKS, WOLVERHAMPTON, ENG.
MAKERS OF
PUMPS & PUMPING MACHINERY,
FOR
STEAM, HAND, HORSE, BELT & ELECTRIC POWER.
MINING & IRRIGATION PUMPS A SPECIALITY.
WRITE FOR LIST No. 20.
CABLE: "EVANS," WOLVERHAMPTON.
CODES: OWN & A B C (5TH EDITION).

INSURANCES.

THE ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Established 1874.

FUNDS OVER Rs. 3,00,00,000.

INVESTMENTS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES and lodged with the OFFICIAL TRUSTEE OF BOMBAY.

The Premiums are based upon the Company's actual experience, being the lowest with safety and so the most advantageous to all assurers.

For Prospectus containing all particulars apply to

R. PATERSON BROWN,
Manager, BOMBAY.

THE DEMAND FOR STANDARD POLICIES.

EVERY YEAR since 1865 the NEW BUSINESS has exceeded £1,000,000 sums assured PER ANNUM—a result maintained uninterruptedly for so long a period by

NO OTHER BRITISH OFFICE.

NEW POLICIES IN 1906
ISSUED FOR.....$2,384,400
ACCUMULATED FUNDS.....$11,750,000
ASSURANCES IN FORCE.....$29,222,800

ASK FOR THE 1906 PROSPECTUS containing the LATEST RATES and NEW SCHEMES, obtainable from

F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary, Bombay Branch,
BINNY & Co., Ltd.,
Chief Agents, Madras.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

FIRE LIFE

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Every Class of Business Transacted at Lowest Rates.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

New Prospectus just Issued containing LARGELY REDUCED RATES.

Application for Agencies in unrepresented Mofussil Centres invited.

Apply for Particulars.

BRANCH OFFICE: SECY. C. M. ROSS, ROYAL INSURANCE BUILDING, HUMMUM STREET, 45/48, *Church Gate Street*, BOMBAY.

AGENTS: T. H. MOORE & Co.

EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.
Head Office: BOMBAY.

ILLUSTRATIVE TABLE.
Showing the Annual Premium payable for various kinds of Policies, WITH PROFITS.

Age next Birthday.	Whole Life Premiums.	Premiums Limited to			Payable at Death or at the end of			Age next Birthday.
		10 years.	15 years.	20 years.	15 years.	20 years.	25 years.	
	ASSURANCES OF Rs. 1000 PAYABLE AT DEATH.				ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES OF Rs. 1000			
	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	
20	21 10	46 8	36 6	30 7	64 5	47 6	37 11	20
25	24 2	52 5	39 4	33 0	64 13	48 0	38 7	25
30	27 4	56 13	42 13	36 0	65 10	49 0	39 11	30
35	31 5	63 4	47 1	39 12	66 13	50 5	41 10	35
40	36 11	68 13	52 5	44 9	68 11	52 14	44 10	40
45	43 14	78 7	58 13	...	71 11	56 13	...	45

Detailed Prospectus and Balance Sheet on Application.

E. F. ALLUM,
General Manager.

A BROKEN-DOWN SYSTEM.

This is a condition (or disease) to which doctors give many names, but which few of them really understand. It is simply weakness—a break-down, as it were, of the vital forces that sustain the system. No matter what may be its causes (for they are almost numberless), its symptoms are much the same; the more prominent being sleeplessness, sense of prostration or weariness, depression of spirits and want of energy for all the ordinary affairs of life. Now, what alone is absolutely essential in all such cases is *increased vitality*—vigour—

VITAL STRENGTH & ENERGY

to throw off these morbid feelings, and experience proves that as night succeeds the day this may be more certainly secured by a course of the celebrated life-reviving tonic

THERAPION No. 3

than by any other known combination. So surely as it is taken in accordance with the printed directions accompanying it, will the shattered health be restored.

THE EXPIRING LAMP OF LIFE IS LIGHTED UP AFRESH,

and a new existence imparted in place of what had so lately seemed worn-out, "used up," and valueless. This wonderful restorative is purely vegetable and innocuous, is agreeable to the taste—suitable for all constitutions and conditions, in either sex

WELL, THAT'S FINE.

The **GEM JUNIOR** is now in BOMBAY.

A SAFETY RAZOR

THAT GIVES THAT PLEASING AND SATISFYING EXPRESSION AFTER USE.

The "GEM JUNIOR OUTFIT" consists of one handle, one silver nickel-plated holder, one stropping attachment, and seven razor-steel blades, all put in a compact leather-covered case, with clasp.

The Price of Complete Set is **Rs. 4-8.**

A CHANCE FOR EVERY MAN TO KNOW THE DELIGHT OF A PERFECT SHAVE.

GEM JUNIOR COMPANY,
Box 261, BOMBAY.

THE LATEST VALUATION
OF THE
NORWICH UNION MUTUAL LIFE OFFICE
AFFORDS
ANOTHER SIGNAL TRIUMPH
and enabled the Directors to announce
THE LARGEST BONUS EVER DECLARED BY THE SOCIETY
which may be regarded as
A Source of Supreme Satisfaction to Existing Policy-holders and a Powerful Inducement to intending Insurers.

For full particulars apply to—
O. C. B. WIMBUSH,
Manage

AGENTS WANTED.
Address: 89, Apollo Street.

SAFES,
RECOMMENDED BY
BOMBAY GOVERNMENT
have stood the horrid tests of recent
CHUKLA & SITARAM BUILDING
TERRIFIC FIRES.
That's all. No bogus test necessary.

Being 40 per cent. CHEAPER, our SAFES are largely used by Various Governments, Native States, Railways, Municipalities, Public Works Depts., Banks, Factories, &c.

CATALOGUE & PRICE-LIST ON APPLICATION.

HARICHAND MANCHHARAM & SON,
138, GULALWADI, BOMBAY.

JUST ARRIVED.
A very large Assortment of most Powerful and Elegant
BINOCULARS AND OPERA GLASSES.
also English-made
MOTOR GOGGLES.
Most decent in Appearance, suitable for Hot Climate, of the BEST QUALITY.

CAN BE HAD OF
PHIROZE M. DASTOOR & CO.,
OCULISTS AND OPTICIANS,
7, HORNBY ROAD,
Opposite General Post Office.
PRICES EXTREMELY MODERATE

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LONDON MARKETS.

LONDON, MARCH 19.] [BOMBAY, MARCH 20.

FINANCIAL.

	Rates.	Pins.	Minus.
2½ per cent. Consols	87 3/8		1/16
2½ do. Rentes	97 1/4	un	chgd
3½ do. Sterling Loan	101 1/4	un	chgd
3½ do. Govt. Securities	83 1/2	un	chgd
4½ *Bar Silver in London	25 5/8	1/16	
Do. do. 2 months' hence	25 3/4	1/16	
Do. in New York	55 1/2	1/8	
Exchange on London at Paris	25·16 1/2		1
Do. do. do. Berlin	20·44 1/4		1 1/4
Do. do. do. New York	4·86	un	chgd
Discount Bank of England Rate	3 p.c.	since	to-day
Discount Short London Bills, 2 months' sight	2 3/4		1/8
Do. Indian Bank Bills, 6 months' sight	2 3/4	un	chgd
Do. 3 Months' Fine Trade Bills	3 1/8		1/4
Do. 6 Months' Fine Trade Bills	3 1/4		1/4
Interest Day-to-day Loans	2 7/8		4
Do. 7-day Market Loans	2 3/4		5/8

Amount paid into the Bank of England, £1,50,000
Exchange on India, 30 days' sight (Bank's buying rate)... 1s. 3 3/4d. unchanged.

* Closing tone of Silver:—Quiet but steady.

Mails:—
The Bombay Mails of 7th instant arrived at Brindisi yesterday afternoon.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND Returns for the week ending yesterday show the following results:—

Total Bullion	£40,600,000	Inc.	£300,000
Public Deposits	£19,600,000	Inc.	£300,000
Other Deposits	£41,400,000	Dec.	£200,000
Government Securities	£13,900,000	unchgd.	...
Other Securities	£34,200,000	Dec.	£ 800,000
Notes and Gold	£31,300,000	Inc.	£800,000

The Bank's Reserve is 51 per cent. of the Liabilities.

COTTON.

Liverpool:—

Spots	Easier with fair demand.
Futures	Easier.
East Indian	Quiet.
Manchester	Quiet.
Total Sales	3,000 bales.
Sold on Speculation and for Export	2,000 "
Imports	23,000 "
Mid-Americans	5·23—06
Egyptian F.G.F. Brown	8 3/16 unchgd.

Future Delivery Prices:—

Mar.-Apl.	Apl.-May.	May-June.	June-July.	July-Aug.
5·39	5·39	5·39	5·23	5·26
—15	—15	—15	—15	—14
Aug.-Sept.	**Spt.-Oct.**	**Oct-Nov.**		**Nov.-Dec.**
5·30	5·24	5·17		5·11
—13	—11	—11		—11

New York:—

Receipts at U. S. Ports	11,000	bales.
Do. do. last year	2,000	"
Exports to Great Britain	7,000	"
Do. to Continent	23,000	"

Spot Cotton—10·60—20
Futures—Month of May 9·93—16 } Declined owing to long unloading and tended toadvance later partially on covering.
Do. do. July 9·93+7
Closing Tone of Futures.—Steady.

New Orleans:—
Spot Cotton—10 3/4—1/8
Futures—Month of May 10·15—01
Do. do. July 10·10+02
Closing Tone of Futures.—Steady.

ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS.

Fine Broach	d. 5 11/16
F. G. Broach	d. 5 9/16
Good Broach	d. 5 7/16

WHEAT.
Tone of Wheat—Firm.

SEEDS
Rapeseed:—
Yellow Gujarat, per 416 lbs. 85 per cent. ex-ship, 57s March-April—Dunkirk—Done—Can-A.
Yellow Cawnpore, per 416 lbs. 85 per cent. ex-ship, 57 April-May-A. and O.—Sellers—Canal.
Brown 52s April-May—Antwerp—Buyers—Canal.
Tone of Rapeseed—Dull.
Linseed:—
Tone of Linseed—Firm.

MISCELLANEOUS.
Coffee:—
In New York Fair Rio (No. 7 quality) 6 1/8 unchanged.
Rubber:—
Para Rubber 2/2 3/4—Sellers.

IMPORTS OF TREASURE.

Packages.	Value	From	Vessel.	Importer.
	Rs.			
9 Boxes Gold Bullions	1,55,950	London	Caledonia	Yokohama Bank
2 Parcels Silver	37	do	Persia	
8 Boxes Gold Bullions	4,06,808	do	Caledonia	National Bank
5 Cases Sovs.	19,400	Jeddah	Finsel	The B & P S N Co
Rupees	8,000			
5 Packages Rs.	6,901	Muscat	Naturalist	Sundry Importers

BOMBAY MARKETS.

FRIDAY EVENING. | | 20TH MARCH, 1908.

FINANCIAL.

Money:—
Borrowers at 5 per cent. for two months.

Exchange:—
The Market has ruled quiet all day. Only one or two Banks were willing to sell at 1-3 T. T. and 1-3 29-32 for demand Bank bills, while other Banks were quoting 1-32 worse. There has been only a small enquiry for Bank bills for the mail. All Banks were buyers of credits at 1-4 1-16 three months' sight, but few bills have been offered. We have heard of some bills for April-May delivery, but the rates asked are too fine. Far Eastern rates are steady.

We quote:—

T. T. on London	1s. 3 7/8d. to 27/32
Demand Draft	1s. 3 29/32d. to 7/8
Credits—3 months' sight	1s. 4 1/16d.
Do. 6 months' sight	1s. 4 3/16d.
Do. 3 months' sight—France	168 1/2
Do. 3 months' sight—Marks	127 3/4
Hongkong—30 days' sight	149
Yokohama—30 days' sight	151 1/4
Shanghai—30 days' sight	187 1/4

Government Paper.
The Budget statement has been issued to-day and therein provision is made for the issue of a Rupee Loan this year to the extent of Rs. 3 crores. The Government as usual reserve the right to vary the amount, but it will probably be found that when the Loan is issued in July or August, the amount will be for Rs. 3 crores. The market has been affected very slightly by the announcement, and quotations are likely to advance considerably before the date of issue. Rates opened to-day at 95 3-4 ready and 95 13-16 for the settlement and are unchanged with a small business passing. Calcutta market is firmer at 95 7-8 ready and 96 1-16 for delivery forward in a month.

We quote:—

Cash	Rs. 95-12
1st Settlement	" 95-13

Bullion:—
Bar Silver in London on Thursday closed 1/16 up at 25½ ready and 25⅞ for delivery in two months, New York being 1/8 up at 55½. Locally the market has been weak. Some of the bulls are reported to have been selling and ready bars, which, opened at 67 7/16 ex-duty, are quoted at 67 1/8 at the close. Forward rates are also easier and close as under. Bar Gold is steady.

We quote:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
English Bar Gold	24	6	0
Australian Bar Gold	24	5	0
Bombay Bar Gold	24	2	0
English Shield Sovereigns	15	4	0
English Dragon Sovereigns	15	3	0
Silver ex Duty—Ready	67	2	0
Ditto 1st Settlement	66	4	0
Ditto 2nd Settlement	65	14	0

The following is the Weekly Statement of the Bank of Bombay, for the last week, as compared with the previous one:—

LIABILITIES—	Increase. Rs.	Decrease. Rs.
Public Deposits	.....	12,34,000
Other Deposits	32,28,000	.....
Sundries	41,000	.....
ASSETS—		
Government Securities	2,99,000	.....
Other Authorized Securities	2,42,000	.....
Credits on Govt. and other Authorized Securities	5,20,000	.....
Loans on Govt. and other Authorized Securities	.....	15,47,000
Bills Discounted and Purchased	.....	8,77,000
Bullion	.....	45,000
Balance with other Banks	.....	5,39,000
Sundries	9,000	.....
Cash	44,72,000	.....

Council Bills:—
At the Weekly Bid ding on Wednesday last the amount offered was 2.0 lakhs, the allottments made, however, being only 5·70 lakhs, Bills at 1s. 3 29/32d. and No. T. T. After the sales further extras were allotted of 20 lakhs Bills at the same rate. During the week ending on Friday evening the total amount sold including the previous Wednesday's sale was 6·50 lakhs. For next week the advertised amount is again 20 lakhs.

The mail of the 6th March brings £350,000 silver and £11 0,000 gold for Bombay, and the following Council Bills:—

Calcutta	Rs.	7,50,000
Bombay	"	3,30,000
Madras	"	60,000
Total...	Rs.	11,40,000

The mail of the 13th March brings £10,000 silver and £70,000 gold for Bombay and £10,000 silver and £30,000 gold for Calcutta as also the following Council Bills:—

Calcutta	Rs.	100,000
Bombay	"	30,000
Madras	"	5,30,000
Total...	Rs	6,60,000

The mail of the 20th March brings £1,80,000 silver and £70,000 gold for Bombay, and the following Council Bills:—

Calcutta	Rs.	10,000
Bombay	"	50,000
Madras	"	5,30,000
Total...	Rs.	5,90,000

RECEIPTS OF COTTON INTO BOMBAY.

	Total for week.	Total since 1st Oct. 1907	Total same time last year.
Khandesh	3,243	150,399	241,624
Central India	2,574	39,295	59,919
Barsee and Nagger	4,327	83,871	126,630
Berars	5,254	289,065	357,129
Central Provinces	6,615	218,437	236,239
Total Comms.	22,013	790,567	1,023,543
Dholleras	4,009	58,198	111,716
Broach	16,121	69,915	86,223
Coupta and Dharwar	5,839	39,767	20,602
Westerns	286	3,236	6,296
Bengals, N.-W. P.	4,189	300,491	297,309
Bajputana	944	19,247	41,489
Sind	563	34,777	12,720
Persian	64	693	1,135
American	2,372	26,074	13,119
Egyptian	229	2,593	725
Other Sorts	...	379	523
Totals...	36,758	1,346,019	1,715,101

Liverpool Opener:—

Opening Tone	Firm.
Estimated Sales	8,000 bales.
Total Imports	3,000 "

Future Delivery Prices:—

M.-A.	A.-M.	M.-J.	J.-J.	J.-A.
5·43	5·43	5·43	5·43	5·40
+04	+04	+04	+05	+04
A.-S.	**S.-O.**	**O.-N.**	**N.-D.**	
5·34	5·28	5·22	5·19	
+04	+04	+04	+05	

FREIGHTS.
The market has been dull during the week, and there are no signs at present of an improvement. Beyond reliefs in ready steamers at the usual rates there is nothing fresh to report. Reliefs have been done for Marseilles ready at 9s. The P. & O. booked a line for March shipment of 2,000 tons for London, and 500 tons for Antwerp at 11s. 6d.

In the beginning of the week the s. s. "Clan Macdougal" for Dunkik, not being able to finish loading for that port, was put on for Antwerp, and business was done at 11s. 6d.

Business continues dull and ready steamers are finding difficulty in filling up owing to scarcity of Cargo.

Ready rates are unchanged. Reliefs for mos ports are offering for April Shipment at abou 10s. 6d.

No fixtures are reported during the past week.

The market closes dull, with little enquiriy either for ready or forward.

RECEIPTS.
The following are the receipts of Produce into Bombay during the week:—

Wheat	63,182	cwts.
Linseed	10,327	"
Rapeseed	11,152	"
Gingellyseed	21,846	"
Poppyseed	114	"
Groundnuts	4,429	"
Castorseed	13,126	"
Rice	169,360	"
Myrabollams	50,362	"
Cottonseed	53,477	"
Mowraseed	3,027	"
Gram	7,193	"
Jowar	4,672	"
Maize	519	"

MISCELLANEOUS.
LINSEED:—Prices for ready have ruled firm during the week owing to small receipts, while forward prices have fluctuated only slightly. A moderate business has been done, and the market closes firm at the following rates:—

Ready	Rs.	8 3 0	B. T.
April-May	"	8 10 0	B. T.

RAPESEED:—The market has been quite but steady throughout the week, with small fluctuations. At the close we quote as under with a small business passing:—

Brown Cawnpore, April-May	Rs.	9 7 0	R. T.
" Delhi	"	9 8 6	"
Yellow Gujerath	"	10 0 0	B. T.

GINGELLYSEED.—During the early part of the week there was some improvement in the market, the demand being better, and rates advanced Rs. 1 to Rs. 2. Later on the enquiry eased off and prices at the close are weaker as under, with little doing.

Bold white 85 per cent.	Rs.	55 8 0
Muggy	Rs.	54 0 0
Yellow Hinganghat	Rs.	57 0 0

POPPYSEED.—Rates have fluctuated between Rs. 10-14-0 and Rs. 10-15-0 R. T. for May delivery, and at the close the market is steady at the latter price with business doing.

CASTORSEED:—There has been little change in this market during the past week. A fair business has been done and the market close quiet but steady as under:—

Ready	Rs.	31 0 0 to Rs. 31 8 0
April-May	"	32 0 0

COTTONSEED:—Has ruled quiet but steady at Rs. 24-0-0 to Rs. 24-8-0 and closes at the latter price.

MOWRASEED:—There has been a good demand during the week, and rates have gradually improved, the advance at the close amounting to 5 annas per cwts, business having been done at Rs. 5-6-0.

GROUNDNUTS.—The market has been quiet but steady throughout the week at Rs. 43-0-0 and closes at this rate.

WHEAT.—The market has ruled steady during the past week and a fair business has been done in White Delhi April-May delivery. At the close we quote in a firm market as under:—

Ready White Karachi	Rs.	6 3 0	
White Delhi, Apl.-May	"	6 0 6	R. T.
Pissi 91 per cent. Mr-Apl	"	6 0 6	R. T.

COTTON STATISTICS.

	Bales 1907-08	Bales 1906-07.	Bales Difference.
Receipts for the week	56,739	119,988	—63,249
Receipts from 1st Oct 07 to 19th March 1908.	1,346,019	1,715,101	—369,082
Shipments for the week:—			
Europe	15,751	31,527	—15,776
China	1,507	22,929	—21,422
Japan			
Coast Ports			
Total	17,258	54,455	—37,198
Total Shipments from 1st Oct. 07 to 19 Mar. 08			
Europe	319,619	534,470	—214,851
China	11,541	23,572	—12,031
Japan	206,218	285,515	—82,197
Coast Ports	18,926	30,311	—11,385
Total	556,404	876,868	—320,464
Afloat in Harbour—			
Europe	23,324	19,051	+7,273
China			
Japan	4,872	29,819	—24,947
Coast Ports			

Total Exports from Bombay by G. I. P. Ry. from 1st October to 31st Dec. 1907.—4,678 bales.
Total Exports from Bombay by B. B. & C. I. Ry. from 1st October to 21st Dec. 1907.—5,037 bales.

STOCK OF COTTON IN BOMBAY.

Stock on 1st October 1907.	376,000	bales
Total Receipts, 1st October 1907 to 19th March 08.	1,346,019	"
	1,724,019	"
Total Exports from 1st October 1907 to 19th March 1908	556,404	"
	1,167,615	"
Afloat	31,193	"
	1,136,419	"
Estimated Mill Consumption and Up-Country by rail	529,000	"
Stock in all hands on 20th Mar. 08	607,419	

EXPORTS.

COTTON.

Market Report:—
The fall in prices in the Home markets has continued steadily during the past week, and as yet there are no signs of bottom prices having been touched. The preliminary final Ginners' Report is expected in a day or two, and private messages received lately state that it is anticipated the Report will be "bearish." Should this prove to be the case, we shall probably see a further hammering of the market, as the "bear" element is strong. So far, the New Crop has attracted little attention, but we may take it that the weather has been favourable for farming operations as we have heard nothing to the contrary. A little later on, the New Crop will assume its place as the most important factor in the evolution of the market.

The following is our usual weekly comparative table of prices in the Home markets as shown by the telegrams received here last Friday and to-day:—

	Last week.	This week.	Difference.
LIVERPOOL—			
Spot	6·09	5·88	—21
Futures, Mar-Apl.	5·63	5·39	—27
Do. July-Aug	5·52	5·36	—26
NEW YORK—			
Spot	11·10	10·60	—50
Futures, May	10·51	9·96	—55
Do. July	10·24	9·93	—41
NEW ORLEANS—			
Spot	11 1/4	10 3/4	—1/2
Futures, May	10·56	10·15	—41
Do. July	10·48	10·10	—38

Since our last Friday's report there has been a steady fall in prices in the local market for nearly all descriptions. Fine Broach has given way Rs. 8 while good Broach is practically unchanged the margin between the two classes having now entirely disappeared. There have been, and still are free sellers of fine Broach. For April delivery, the rate quoted is Rs. Oomras descriptions and Khandeish have dropped Rs. 7 to Rs. 8; Westerns Rs. 6, and Sawginned Dharwar Rs. 7. Bengals have, on the whole, kept comparatively steady and show a decline of only Re. 1 to Rs. 2.

A considerable business has been done in settlements of contracts for this month's delivery, and fine M. G. Bengals for May delivery have found buyers to a moderate extent. Outside this, the business has been of a very mediocre description.

The demand for ready cotton has, for the time of year, been extremely limited. Now and then there has been spasmodic buying, chiefly of Broach and Bengals; and the low prices of Oomras, which has been pressed for sale, have attracted some attention, Business on the whole is poor, and prices are declining.

Receipts show a drop of 63,000 bales on the week as compared with the same period last year, the total deficiency from 1st October 1907 to date being 3,69,000 bales

QUOTATIONS:—

		Rs.	Delivery.
Fine M. G. Broach	...	264	March
Good M. G. Broach	...	264	"
Fine M. G. Nagpur Kampti		210	"
Fine M. G. Damsingaum Pulgaon		202	"
Fine M. G. Khangaum Akola		206	"
Fine M. G. Amraoti	...	200	"
Fine M. G. Muttia	...	192	"
F. G. M. G. Khandeish	...	188	"
Fine M. G. Khandeish	...	193	"
Fine M. G. Bengals	...	181	"
Fine M. G. Bengals	...	184/5	May
F. G. H. G. Bengals	...	172	March
Good Westerns	...	220	May
Good Saw Ginned Dharwar		236	"

Liverpool Opener:—

Opening Tone	Firm.
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IMPORTS.

PIECE-GOODS.

GREY GOODS AND WHITE GOODS:—The market is dull and declining.

PRINTS AND DYED GOODS:—The market continues dull. Owing to large stocks here, fresh orders are scarce. Prices are apparently going down, but business will continue dull until stocks are considerably reduced.

TURKEY RED PLAIN GOODS:—We have nothing of importance to report this week. The market continues dull.

TURKEY RED PRINTS:—Owing to native holidays the market is dull, but prices are steady, both here and at Home.

DHOOTIES:—The market is very dull and there is little prospect of business for some time to come. Dealers are eagerly looking for an improvement in the demand.

METALS.
COPPER has remained steady at Home but prices here have given way to the extent of Re. 1 per cwt.

YELLOW METAL has also declined during the week owing to slow demand and ample supplies.

COALS.
The market is quiet and prices a trifle easier. A lot of 1,000 tons Watson's Hartley of April shipments was down at Rs. 17-8 per ton, while sundry retail sales of ready Bengal have been effected at the quotations given below. A parte cargo of Powell's Duffeuyer of near shipments has been put through at Rs. 20-4 per ton. We quote as follows:

	Rs.	a.	p.	
Cardiff	20	4	0	per ton.
Davidson's West Hartley	18	4	0	"
Yorkshire	18	8	0	"
Watsons' Houtley	17	8	0	"
South African (Natal)	16	8	0	"
Desherghur Bengal	16	8	0	"
Lawries Desherghur	15	12	0	"
Seebpore	15	12	0	"
Jardice	15	8	0	"
Shaw's Anthracite	15	0	0	"
Shaw's Standard	14	0	0	"

PETROLEUM.
The rates ruling to-day in the market for the undermentioned brands are as under:—

Roumanian Bulk loose	Rs.	2 4 0 per unit
" new tins	Rs.	2 14 0 per pair.
Burmah Bulk loose	Rs.	2 14 per unit.
" new tins	Rs.	3 8 0 per pair,
Russian R. Sun, Bulk loose	Rs.	3 6 0 per unit,
" new tins	Rs.	4 0 0 per pair.
Anchor cases	Rs.	4 8 0 per case.

SHARES.
The market is weak and mill Shares are dull and declining. Bank of Bombay Shares have changed hands at Rs. 1,370 and Bank of India at Rs. 59½; Indian Specie Bank Shares have improved to Rs. 51½. Press Shares are steady. Mofussil's are at Rs. 595. New Berar's have changed hands at Rs. 480. Indian Cotton are unchanged at Rs. 127½. Mumar Press Shares have been put through at Rs. 272½ in Mill Companies, Central India's have dropped to Rs. 4775, Connaught's to Rs. 300; Colaba Land and Mill Company Shares have remained steady at and about Rs. 1,025 C. D. Creeants are unchanged at Rs. 97. Currimbhai's have declined to Rs. 1,020. Davids have gradually declined to Rs. 375, Empress to Rs. 360, Franji Petit's to Rs. 1,400, Imperial's are weak at Rs. 180 and Jamshed's at Rs. 170. Kohinoor's have dropped to Rs. 715. Leopold's are quiet at Rs. 66. Manekji Petit's have dropped heavily from Rs. 3,300 to Rs. 3,100, but have again improved close at Rs. 3,140. This big drop is owing to the report of the dividend of Rs. 175 for the last half year. Moorarji's are weak at Rs 2875. Sassoon Mill Shares are steady at Rs. 960; Swadeshi Mill Shares have declined to Rs. 1 380. New City of Bombay are quiet at Rs. 640, Fazulbhoy Mills at Rs. 225. In Miscellaneous Companies, Badham Piles are steady at Rs. 129. Bombay Burmah's are unchanged at Rs. 3,700 X.D., and quarter shares at Rs. 2,475 X. D. Bombay Flours have advanced to Rs. 1,040 C. D. The Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company, Limited, ordinary shares are unchanged at Rs. 150 and Preference shares are steady at Rs. 153 X. D. Marcks are reported to have changed hands at Rs. 129; Port Canning and Land Improvement Company shares are in demand at Rs. 440, Bombay Telephone's have changed hands at Rs. 39. The Bombay Steam Navigation Company Ordinary Shares have changed hands at Rs 26 and Preference Shares are quiet at Rs. 270; Bamankus's are weak at Par and Shivrajpur's at Rs. 35. The Central India Mining Company Shares are steady at Rs. 422½. In Railway Companies, Ahmedabad Prantej are weak at Rs. 570 C.D., Tapti Valley are quiet at Rs. 427½ and Amritsar Patti's have changed hands at Rs. 114. The rest are unchanged at previous quotations.

THE ENGLISH MARKET.

Latest London Quotations.

From the "Indian Investors' Referee."

Atchisons	74½
Eries	15⅝
Unions	126
Canadian Pacific Railway	149½
Barsi Light Railway	11
Burma Railway	108
Delhi-Umballa-Kalka Railway	156
Nizam's State Railway	116
Southern Maharatta Railway	100
South Indian Railway	128½
Southern Punjab Railway	127
Peninsular and Oriental (Def. Ordy.)	211½
Anglo-Malay Rubber Company	3¼
Empire of India and Ceylon Tea Co. (Ordy.)	10
Barnagore Jute Factory (Cum. Preference)	3¼
Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company Preference	10
Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Co. 4½ Debentures	96¾
Burma Oil Limited (Ordinary)	3⅛
Calcutta Electric Supply	7
Calcutta Trams	7
Lipton (Ordy.)	1 7/16
Shell Transport (Pref.)	10¼
Chartered of S Africa	12s. 6d.
Consolidated Goldfields	2⅞
East Rands	2 1/16
Rand Mines	4½
Tanganyikas	2½
Mysore Gold	4½
Champion Reefs	6s.
Dharwar Reefs	3s. 9d.
Goldfields of Dharwar	5s.
Hutti (Nizam's)	1½
Hyderabad (Deccan)	5½
Nundydroog	1 7/8
Anaconda Copper	7⅞
Rio Tinto (Ordy.)	62½
Johannesburg Consolidated	15s.
Oroya Brownhill	13s. 9d.

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly Divid.	Rate.
BANKS.		Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	12 p. c.	1,370
Bank of Bengal	40,000	400	all	10 pr. ct.	1,450
Bank of Madras	100,000	100	all	10 pr. ct.	1,080
Commercial Bank of India	40,000	70	100	Nil	17
Alliance Bank of Simla	15,000	100	100	12 pr. ct.	256
Bank of India	100,000	100	50	5 pr. ct.	59½
Indian Specie Bank	150,000	100	50	5 pr. ct.	51½
EXCHANGES BANKS.					
Charter Bank	0,000	£20	£20	14 pr. ct.	£30
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-16-0	£90
National Bank of India	40,000	£75	£12½	dvd	Rs. 620
Punjab National Bank		100	100		
PRESSES.					yearly.
Akbar	400	1,250	1,250	125	1,750
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,150	1,150	Rs. 50	600
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 25	200
Bombay Cotton Brests Cawnpore Press Co. Ld.	1,000	125	125	dvd Rs. 8	120
Bronch City Press Co. Ld.	500	200	200	dvd Rs. 20	212
Colaba	60	200	200	dvd Rs. 25	198
East India	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 150	800
English Press and Manfg.	350	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 150	850
Fort	700	250	250	dvd Rs. 40	40
French	150	8,000	1,150	dvd Rs. 40	1,025
Harvy, and Sabapathy	200	500	500	dvd Rs. 25	525
Hingoli Press Co., Ld.	250	250	250	dvd Rs. 40	470
Khargaum	750	100	100	dvd Rs. 20	137
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The Bombay Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1908.

A FAMINE BUDGET.

THE Government of India has faced the situation and, as the Hon'ble Mr. Baker stated yesterday in presenting the Financial Statement, its dominating feature is the famine which unhappily is widespread over a large part of Northern India and some other tracts elsewhere. "We are in no position," said the Financial Member, "to undertake any measures for the remission of taxation, or to embark on any schemes of administrative improvement involving considerable expenditure. On the contrary, the occasion is one for rigid economy and retrenchment wherever it can be effected." All the progress we may expect is in Railway construction and in Irrigation protective works. Judged by the Viceroy's remarks at the Calcutta meeting on Monday, we imagined that the Government of India were prepared to proceed more boldly than appears to be the case. It is admitted that the distress resultant from the failure of the rains is more restricted in area and with some local exceptions less severe than in 1896 and 1899; that the distress would have been much more severe but for the autumn rains in Bombay and the winter rains in Northern India, and that the machinery for combating distress has been brought, by the teaching of experience, to a higher pitch of efficiency than before. But the Finance Member desired to budget for a surplus of £571,500, instead of a deficit as Sir James Westland did in 1897, and to make provision for very liberal suspension and remission of revenue. The lessons of the two famines of the past decade have been taken deeply to heart; it may be too deeply, but the fact remains that in the current year nearly two hundred and twenty-two lakhs of revenue have already been suspended and about a hundred and thirty-five lakhs more, will, it is estimated, be suspended in 1908-9. In the present year, too, over a crore of rupees have already been distributed, or sanctioned for distribution, in takavi advances, and two crores are being provided in the next year, upwards of four crores in all as compared with 2·8 in 1896-98 and 2·9 crores in 1899-1901. Not only, as it is claimed, have the suspensions of revenue been on a very liberal scale; but what is at least equally important, they were made with great promptitude, when it was certain that the crops must fail. Government justifies its action by urging that this liberality and prompt action, added to the energy and determination with which the people have themselves faced the calamity, will enable the country to get over the trial and resume its normal course, without any check as a famine on a similar scale would have caused in by-gone times. It is satisfactory to know, too, that the export of wheat has been almost wholly stopped and that a great part of the Burma rice-crop, which was fortunately abundant, has been diverted to India, to take the place of that which had been lost.

It might have been deemed justifiable in existing circumstances to have allowed the question of opium to stand over for a time, but, in the words of Mr. Baker, India is prepared to do its part in co-operating with China towards the eventual extinction of the opium habit among the Chinese. The area under poppy cultivation in the Behar and Benares Agencies has been reduced by forty-five thousand bighas, and the number of chests of Bengal opium to be offered for sale reduced to 3,900 per mensem till December next and to 3,600 from January to March, while the number of chests of Malwa opium which may be exported from Bombay has been limited to a maximum of 15,100 during the present calendar year. Whether further measures will be hereafter taken is to depend on the degree of success which attends the efforts of the Chinese Government. The Indian Government doubts not the sincerity of the Chinese Government and so it sacrifices a trade which yields large profits to large numbers of cultivators and middlemen at a time when every available pie is necessary for the prevention of suffering and distress. Estimating the revenue at £73,488,900, expenditure a £72,867,400 and a surplus of £571,500, the Government has provided for an outlay of 132·07 lakhs, of which one crore is for the United Provinces, ten lakhs each for Bengal and the Central Provinces, and smaller sums elsewhere. Of this amount, eighty lakhs and a half will fall on Imperial revenues and fifty-one and a half on provincial. Of this last amount, however, fifty lakhs belongs to the United Provinces and as the balances of that Government have been entirely depleted by reason of the famine the bulk of this charge, as well as the greater part of that incurred in the same province in the current year, will eventually fall on Imperial. By the new arrangements for apportioning the cost of famine relief, substantial support is lent to Provincial revenues and in the five other affected provinces, namely the Central Provinces, Bengal, Punjab, Madras and Bombay, charges aggregating 9·46 lakhs have been transferred to Imperial during the current year and a further sum of 28·94 lakhs will be similarly transferred in 1908-9, which but for the revised system would have fallen entirely on the revenues of the provinces concerned.

Whilst providing for famine relief, Government does not altogether stand still, as we have already observed. Twelve lakhs of rupees are furnished for the further prosecution of Police reform, and of this sum Bombay is to receive four and a quarter lakhs. Some provision is also made for the improvement of public health. It is recognised that some organised effort has been made to improve the sanitary conditions in which the people live. The necessity for financial assistance to enable large towns to achieve a sanitary standard less primitive than at present prevails has been pressed upon the Government of India by the Local Governments, and it has therefore been decided to allot thirty lakhs of rupees—of which Bombay gets four and a half—for expenditure on sanitary improvements with special reference to the promotion of plague, each Local Government being at liberty to expend the money at its discretion and to attack the problem in whatever way it thinks best. In order to economise the grant for special military expenditure has been taken at the reduced figure of last year and it has also been decided in view of the general financial situation not to make any further addition on account of lapses, though these have again been large. The total grant for special expenditure is £1,666,700, of which provision for new expenditure is one million, the bulk being required for work already in progress. In Railway construction it is hoped to add 921·35 miles to the length of rail laid down and to spend ten millions, the figure which has stood for three years in succession. The Irrigation programme contemplates the addition of some millions of acres to the area under main and branch canals, extensive surveys having been pushed on, the project numbering forty-two and are likely to cost forty-two crores of rupees. Discussing Ways and Means, the Finance Member anticipates that from all sources the revenue will amount to £7,861,500, leaving £4,296,100 still to be provided. This amount he proposes to raise by a loan of three crores in India, a half million by temporary Bills in England, the remaining £1,796,100 being met by a reduction in the cash balances which are expected to stand at £12,200,000 in India and £3,759,000 in England. The Finance Member was careful to explain that the announcement regarding the amounts to be borrowed in England and in India is subjected to the usual reservation and the Government of India retains full discretion to vary the programme as it considers desirable and the same with respect to the stated present intention of the Secretary of State to draw Bills on India to the amount of £ 18,500,000, as additional Bills will be sold if needed to meet demands of trade.

NAUROZ FESTIVAL AMONG THE PARSIS.

TO-DAY, the Parsis hold their festival of Nauroz, for on this day the Sun enters the Zodiacal sign of Aries in his apparent course among the stars. It is the day of the Vernal Equinox when the Sun after having travelled through all the twelve signs during the twelve previous months enters upon his annual labours again and recommences them in the first sign called Aries. It is the beginning of Nature's year when everything rejoices and is fresh and new. Winter, the season of cold and gloom, with its short days and long nights, is by this time quite over, and Spring is in full swing—day and night being of equal length to-day, hence the name 'equinox'—heralding Summer the pleasant season with its long days and plenty of sunlight. No wonder that this time of the year was chosen by the ancestors of the Parsis in a cold country like Persia as a season of rejoicing in sympathy with all Nature which, too, may be said to rejoice at springtime. The Parsis when in their glory in Persia in former days began their year on this day; hence its name of Nauroz which literay means "new day." And not only the Pars of old but many people round about them; Persia and Central Asia did so too. At the present day in Persia they begin their new year to-day, though the rulers are no longer Parsis, out of the totally different faith of Islam. This feast, says Malcolm, is to this day observed with as much joy and festivity as it was by the ancient inhabitants of Persia. This single institution of former days has triumphed over that intolerent bigotry which destroyed the religion, which it was grounded; and the Mahomedans of Persia have chosen rather to be upbraided with the impious observance of what their enmies term an usage of infidels, than abolish a fast which was so cherished by their ancestors." In Teheran the Shah of Persia holds a grand *doar*, reviews his troops with great pomp, and service keeps this day with due solemnity and ate; and all the people of that country, Mahodans as they are, join in observing this ancie festival of those upon whom they look down Guebres or infidels, for it has come down them from ancient times and such is the force of habit and tradition that though they have cked their faith they still cling to their fesals. Ostensibly the Shiah Mahomedans of rsia keep it as the day on which their favite Imam, Ali the son-in-law of Mahomed, came Caliph. But in reality it is only a pret for celebrating the Nauroz which existed lon before Ali or Mahomed existed or were heard of in Persia. This is usually the case with nans who change their faith, and we have instance of this in some of the important Christian tivals which were nothing but the feast days the Pagan nations before they became Christi Christmas and Easter were originally Pan festivals very popular with these peoples :d when they gave up Paganism to become Chians they retained these old festivals, theiriests prudently not opposing this tendency i giving these feasts a Christian colour asonnecting them with events in the life of Jesu Not to go very far for an instance, we see ng the Native Christians here who were Gually Hindus, several Hindu festivals under Christian garb like the Holi.

This Nauroz festival was t originally the New Year's day of the ancientarsis. But it is so no longer with the Parsis the present day in India. They keep this fval, of course, but their new year does not coence to-day. It commenced, already more than months ago last September. This is owi not to their conscious abandonment of the ant reckoning of their forefathers, for they still e the solar year in vogue among them; busine to their not observing the slight differenc about six hours between the ordinary solard the true solar year. We observe this erence in our calculations and add every fourth ar an extra day to February and thus adjust the error of a day that has accumulated during the previous four years. The Parsis have neglected doing this and have no leap year; hence this slight error of about six hours every year has accumulated in the course of ages to this big blunder of six or seven months, and what is really Spring has become Autumn according to the Parsi Calendar. The ancient Parsis when in Persia used to rectify this annual excess of about six hours, not by adding a day every four years like us, but by allowing this excess to grow to a full month which it did in 120 years, and then to have an additional or intercalatory month. But their descendants in India did not keep up this practice of intercalation, and have thus gone wrong by six or seven months. Hence their new year does no longer commence on the Nauroz to-day. Some few Parsis have seen this error of their community and want to rectify it. They commence their new year to-day. But in this matter of calculating time little is gained by a few persons rectifying their calendar. It only adds to the confusion. The community in a body or at least an overwhelming majority in it, should rectify their communal reckoning of time. There are signs that this may be done in time, for the conscience of the community is slowly awakening to a sense of the error of its ways in this matter. Probably the next generation of Parsis will abandon this obvious error, and begin their new year on the 20th March like their forebears in ancient Persia.

EXPANSION.

So far the most soundly practical reply which has been sent to Government on the subject of the future expansion of Bombay is that from Mr. W. D. Sheppard, the Municipal Commissioner. We do not say this merely because it practically coincides with our own views. It shows that he has carefully studied the subject and that he is fully aware of the necessities of the place and that he has also considered the problem of ways and means. The reclamation of Back Bay is, as might be expected, the proposal to which he would give first place in any scheme of expansion. On the question of communications, too, his advice will bear inspection, the more so as he gives it in a clear, concise form which admits of no misunderstanding. The Municipal Executive Engineer has an original scheme, which will certainly never be adopted. We should have preferred him to treat the subject from a strictly engineering point of view as the Health Office has, for the most part, treated it from the sanitary. Undoubtedly public health must not be lost sight of, and the drainage system must be improved whenever any extensive scheme of expansion is carried out. But there is something pathetic in Dr. Turner's complaint that "the sewage arrives at Love Grove in such a condition that even the fish cannot eat it." We presume if he had his way it would arrive in such a condition that it might be consumed by the residents of his floating city in Back Bay.

THE Bank of Bengal rate remains unchanged this week at eight per cent.

THE P. and O. s.s. "Delta," with the China Mails, is expected to arrive in Bombay at 8 a.m. to-morrow, the 22nd instant.

THE Austrian Lloyd's s.s. "Imperator" left Trieste for Bombay via Kurachi on the afternoon of the 18th instant and is due here on the 8th April.

A SCHEME for the reorganisation of the Bengal Excise Establishment, on the lines recommended by the Excise Committee, is before the Government of India.

STONES were thrown at one of the cars of the Bengal Motor Company on the Barrakpore Road on Wednesday last, the driver and a lady passenger being hit.

"CAPITAL" states that the coal stocks at the collieries have risen from 136,000 tons last November to 434,010 tons at the end of last month, and that a sharp slump in prices is imminent.

CAMBERWELL Borough Council has decided to plant 1368 trees in various streets, in order to beautify and purify the borough. The work will be done by the unemployed.

AS regards railway expenditure in the coming financial year, the "Pioneer" understands that some of the principal Companies will be allowed to raise a large amount of capital at Home, apart from the sterling borrowings of the Secretary of State.

A MIDLAND Railway engine-driver who recently retired after forty years' service, and went to live in the country, has induced the company to restore him to his old position on the footplate, as he found life away from his engine unendurable.

ROBERT WOMACK, who discovered Cripple Creek the world's greatest gold camp, and sold his claim for £125, is living on charity at Colorado Springs, and a subscription for his relief has been started. The camp has yielded £59,500,000 in gold since 1891.

THE Notts County Cricket Club is organising a testimonial to its Captain, Mr. A. O. Jones, in recognition of his services to the Club, especially in connection with the winning of the County Championship last year. It is hoped to realise the sum of £2,000.

WE learn that the Syndicate of the Madras University has appointed a special Committee, consisting chiefly of educationists, to enquire into and report upon the abnormal failures in the Matriculation Examination, not only at the last examination but also in previous years.

FROM the 7th to the 13th instant, 7 East Indians, 16 Native Christians, 314 Hindus, and 62 Mahomedans died within the limits of Madras, making a total of 399. The death rate was 40·7 per mille, the mean for the ten previous years being 39·3. The deaths are thus classified :—Cholera 4, fevers 117, bowel complaints 45, and other causes 233.

THE scheme for the redistribution of districts in the Madras Presidency has, we are informed, been referred to the Local Government for further information in regard to certain details which are now under consideration. It will therefore be some time before final orders are issued by the Government of India.

MR. F. D. AGLAND, M. P., declares that he has found it impossible to go on living in Kensington because of the cats. He moved to another part of London, where he hoped to be undisturbed by feline noises, but the noise now came, not from the garden below, but from the nursery above.

ABOUT 200 students raided the public hall of Corstorphine, Edinburgh, where Suffragists were holding a meeting, and smashed doors, windows, chairs, and benches. The women got out through the broken windows, and the students indulged in a smoking concert.

EXPLAINING to a meeting of Newcastle ladies a scheme for the training of poor mothers in the bringing up of their children, Miss Renaud said she had begun a series of weekly "welcome" meetings, which really served the purpose of a school for mothers. Miss Renaud illustrated her address by exhibiting a model cot, which she said was only a banana case, costing twopence, and could be made very neat by painting. It was far better, she thought, that a child should sleep in one of these than under the appalling conditions she had often seen in the homes of the poor.

ENGLISH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LETTER.

THE KING AND THE PREMIER.

The Kaiser's Letter.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, MARCH 6.

I HAPPENED to be crossing the Horse Guards Parade on Wednesday afternoon from St. James's Park when my attention was attracted by seeing a smart brougham drawn by a pair of very fine bays standing near to the garden entrance of the dingy-looking quarters in which a not too grateful country lodges its Prime Minister. There was nobody about except three or four passers-by and it never occured to me that the carriage was that of his Majesty or that the King was inside the grimy building taking farewell of his chief adviser. This is the first occasion, at any rate in modern times, on which such a compliment has been paid to a British Premier by a reigning sovereign. It is by old established rule that on the eve of a monarch's departure for foreign parts he should be waited upon by the Prime Minister, and it was generally supposed that as Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is unhappily still in the hands of doctors his duty would be performed by his second-in command. But his Majesty with the tact and kindliness which make him so popular with all classes of his subjects decided in the circumstances to waive etiquette and to pay a visit to the sick statesman prior to starting for the Continent. The official announcement of the event is worded as follows :—"The King visited Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman at 10, Downing-street this afternoon, to take leave of him before leaving for Biarritz. 4th March His Majesty remained at 10 Downing-street three-quarters of an hour and, as may be supposed, the distinguished patient was greatly cheered by receiving such a delicate attention. When the news reached that busy manufactory of tittle-tattle, the lobby of the House of Commons, imaginations were set to work and in a short time there were reports flying about that the incident was connected with the question of the retention of office by Sir Henry. There appears to be no foundation whatever for the report, and his Majesty's call was, as the "Times" says, of a personal nature. Notwithstanding, there is a pretty general feeling that the health of the Prime Minister is such that he will not be able to continue to meet the exacting demands of his laborious office, and those who know him best still maintain that he will not consent to be nominal leader with a seat in the House of Lords. I myself am not so sure. Reluctant as he may be to accept a peerage I can conceive of his disregarding his own wishes if he feels that the interest of the Liberal Party require him to make the sacrifice. At any rate, his retirement would be a great loss to the Ministerialists at a very critical period in the existence of a Government and of a House of Commons which he has led with consummate ability.

"UNDER WHICH KING."

All who wish well to the "Times," and that I apprehend everybody who has not some mercenary motive in running it down, will congratulate the still great journal on the hit made by Printing House Square this morning in reference to the Kaiser's letter to Lord Tweedmouth. We are accustomed to leakage at the Admiralty, otherwise one might be astonished at the fact of such a communication having been sent by the German Sovereign to the First Lord of the Admiralty, becoming publicly known. Lord Tweedmouth's explanation of how the matter "got into the papers" is awaited with curiosity, but the Military Correspondent of the "Times" seems to insinuate that the First Lord is himself to blame when he refers to the incident as "an open secret, owing to the number of persons to whom it has, most unwisely and unfortunately, been made known." Lord Tweedmouth is not exactly a simpleton, and a man who has been the chief whip of a great party knows a thing or two. What if Lord Tweedmouth wished it to be known that the Kaiser had written to him about "British and German naval policy"? He may have wished to bring the Murray-Macdonald's and the Sir John Brunners to their senses and to stop the incipient mutiny of the pacificists. Who knows? The "Times" which was not represented in the rather absurd "mission" of English journalists to Germany some time ago and resisted the Kaiser's blandishments when he visited this country recently, writes very emphatically in condemnation of what at best seems to have been a "faux pas" on the part of the mailed fist: "He" (the Kaiser) "holds honorary rank of Admiral of the Fleet in the British Navy; but if that complimentary title is held to warrant a foreign potentate in interfering in our domestic affairs by secret appeals to the head of a department on which the national safety depends, all that can be said is that the abolition of dynastic compliments of this kind is an urgent necessity." We are asked to suppose what would have happened if a Pitt or a Palmerston at the head of the Navy had been approached in this manner by a foreign potentate, "would he have been gratified by such a mark of imperial condescension, or would he have been filled with indignation at the implied estimate of his patriotism and his fidelity to his trust? Would he have waited for pressure from outside before laying such a communication before Parliament?" If Lord Tweedmouth has shown any snobbish gratification on receiving a letter from the Kaiser or regards it servilely as a "mark of Imperial condescension," he is not the shrewd person I have always taken him to be and he has done his party a bad turn. The disclosure comes at the end of a week during which the naval activity of our German friends has been much in our thoughts owing to the debates in Parliament first on the Macdonald-Brunner resolution in favour of reduced armaments and the estimates of the fighting Services. One of the speakers in the retrenchment discussion, Mr. Lee who was in office in the last Government, said there is no secret about the efforts which Germany is making to imperil the supremacy at sea that we now possess, sarcastically adding that the Government there is not so easily intimidated by motions and round robins as are the present advisers of his Majesty. 'A propos' a German newspaper, the "Tag," published an instructive article by Herr von Rath, retired Councillor of Legation, who suspicious persons will say lets the cat out of the bag. The gospel of the naval enthusiasts of Germany has been, he tells us, that "England under a Liberal Government would in view of the demands of her social policy refrain from building a larger number of ships, and even might build fewer"; and that when the Conservatives returned to office Germany would already have obtained a lead which it would be difficult for England to recover. "It was", the writer goes on to say, "further supposed that the precarious position of England in the Mediterranean and in Asia would divert the attention of the Government from German naval construction. The movement in Egypt, encouraged by the withdrawal of the Mediterranean Squadron; the disturbances in India, which necessitated military expeditions, and, finally, the alarming advance of Japan were all adduced as proofs that England would only be too glad to have peace in her immediate neighbourhood. Of course Herr von Rath is not Imperial Chancellor but he is obviously sincere and his extreme candour will not tend to remove the distrust of Germany which is so widespread in this country.

DR. LONGSTAFFE AND LORD CURZON AT THE ALPINE CLUB.

At a meeting of the Alpine Club on Tuesday evening Dr. T. G. Longstaffe gave an illustrated account of the Mountaineering Expedition in Gurwhal in which he took part last year, and during which ascents were made of over 22,000 feet. He spoke in high terms of the native members of the expedition, especially the Gurkhas, whose intelligence and powers of endurance were such that in any future climbs in the Himalayas that are made he shall, he says, recommend the employment of these hardy little men in preference to the usual Swiss or Italian guides. Lord Curzon who is an honorary member of the Club, was present, and took part in the discussion. He complimented Dr. Longstaffe on the courage and determination that had been shown in overcoming the difficulties of the great altitudes which had been attained. His (Lord Curzon's) own efforts had not exceeded a height of 17,000 ft. he had a high opinion of the value, scientific economic and otherwise, of such expeditions and during his residence in India had assisted them as far as possible and would have continued to have done so had he remained in office. Often said Lord Curzon, when at Simla, had he looked across at the distant snow clad peaks of the Himalayas and felt how desirable and appropriate it would be that the many still unconquered giants, among them on British territory should be climbed by British Mountaineers. He was therefore glad when he heard of the proposed expedition to afford it such facilities as were at the disposal of the Indian Government. Among the mountains in which he took particular interest, Kangchenjunga and Mount Everest still remained unconquered. He had hoped that the latter peak, although not in British territory, might have been attempted during a recent expedition into the neighbouring country of Tibet. But the present Secretary of State for India had

LORD CROMER AND THOMAS HARDY.

Sir George Bridwood, writing in a private letter on the subject of Lord Cromer's "Modern Egypt", has made some remarks on Lord Cromer's great book "Modern Egypt" and Mr. Thomas Hardy's "Dynasts" which are of such interest that I have no hesitation in transcribing them here, although you will doubtless be reviewing both these remarkable volumes separately. Sir George observed :—"I have been writing so much on Lord Cromer's 'Modern Egypt' that I can write no more on it, except it be to reiterate my conviction that but for Gordon, the British administration would never have become established in the valley of the Nile, from the Delta to the headsprings of the river; and there would not have been, in our day and generation and under the egis of the Union Jack, any Modern Egypt. The English masses had no concern with Egypt until they became interested in Gordon. I recollect the first head lines on the posters of the evening papers, giving the very first warnings of serious trouble for us in Egypt. These posters were arrayed in the gutter along the south west corner of Parliament Street, opposite Westminster Abbey; and a little crowd of workmen, returning to work after dinner, was gathered around them, considering whether to buy a paper or not. One read out the first line: "Trouble (or "Disturbance," I forget the exact word) in Egypt." "Oh,—Egypt" responded another, "we don't live there!" Then reading the next headline, referring to a divorce case, a copy of the paper advertised was at once bought. Some time before that a hideous oleograph made in Germany of "The Crucifixion" had been hung in the windows of the Christian Knowledge Society close by, and observing three working men before it, I stopped to hear what they thought of it, hoping to find them shocked by its artistic demerits. The three happened to be, one a country labourer, one a London mechanic, and one between the other two a coachman from the neighbouring cab stand. None of them knew what the subject of the oleograph was. The countryman said he thought it must be a Bulgarian atrocity. The mechanic said that whatever it was it would never have been allowed in England. On which the cabby nudging his chance companions one on either side, and then clapping his hands together, good-naturedly and conclusively replied: "Lor, I don't believe a word of it, and I should just like to have seen the thing done!" It was just these men, with hearts full of pity and their strong sense of righteousness, but knowing nothing of the English Bible, who felt no interest in Egypt, and who would never have permitted the British occupation of Egypt, but for Gordon. He revivified the Biblical associations of the English middle classes with Egypt, and by his own heroical enthusiasm for humanity, inflamed to a white heat the popular detestation of slavery; and from that hour, we all in England recognised that Egypt after twelve centuries of tribulation and woe was healed of all her plagues and that England stood a third with Egypt and Ethiopia, 'even a blessing in the midst of the land,' and that 'Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength, and it was infinite.'

Another great book of the week, the third and concluding volume of Hardy's "Dynasts" will, I hope, be in every Englishman's and Englishwoman's hands in India by this mail. I have not had so great a mental delight in reading, since a fortnight before anyone else I discovered the power and significance of Swinburne's Ballads, and years and years before that awaited with impatience the monthly issues of 'Martin Chuzzlewitt,' and then of 'Vanity Fair' and following that 'The Newcomes.' But the 'Dynasts' lifts you at once to the highest heaven of intellectual joy. Begin at the end of the volume with "The Field of Waterloo" containing the last four scenes of the Seventh Act. If you can remember anything of the maps showing the positions of the English and the French on that supreme day,—you are at once in the thick of the battle, lost to everything else, and so absorbed in the struggle in its vividly visualised reality, that now and again, you forget to read, and earnestly watch for a while the scene before you, in which you are yourself taking an actual and passionate part. And more than this you know the thoughts passing in the brain of Bonaparte, and still more positively the thoughts of Wellington, while Uxbridge, Picton, Ponsonby, and the rest of that immortal roll of honour are before you as if they had been your personal friends for years. The individuality of every one of them is as convincing and impressive as if you were with them in the hunting field, or playing Bridge with them. And it is the same with Hardy's Wessex friends, Powsappoople and villagers, the rustics and the yeoman, and the Vicar of Durnover. Reading, and continual reversion, it takes you three hours to get through the 49 pages of the last three scenes of Act VII, and then at last you come into the common light of day, perfectly exhausted by the mental excitement through which you have passed and, up to then, quite unconsciously. And then you recognise that Thomas Hardy has written his greatest work, and the greatest dramatic work produced since Shakespeare. There are innumerable lighter touches throughout the volume; for example, the Sergeant (of Hussars) song of "Budmouth Dears" Act II, Scene I, "The Plain of Victoria :"—

When we lay where Budmouth Beaches,
O, the girls were fresh as peaches
With their tall and tossing figures and their eyes of blue and brown!
And our hearts would ache with longing
As we paced from our sing-singing,
With a smart Klink! Klink! up the Esplanade and down.

II.

* * * *

III.

Do they miss us much, I wonder,
Now that war has swept us sunder,
And we roam from where the faces smile to where the faces frown?
And no more behold the features
Of the fair fantastic creatures,
And no more click! clink! past the parlours of the town.

IV.

Shall we once again there meet them?
Risk a food attempt to greet them?
Will the gay sling jacket glow again beside the muslin gown?
Will they archly quiz and con us
With a sideway glance upon us,
While our spurs click! clink! up the Esplanade and down.

This is a perfect cavalry song; and what a song it would make for singing were Sir Arthur Sullivan, the old Bandmaster at Sandhurst still alive to set it to music, for he was incomparable in the craft of wedding musical notes to words. I am afraid that Sir George does not quite approve of Lord Cromer's treatment of the hero of Khartoum. Perhaps that is not to be wondered, for Chinese Gordon was in some respects a man after Sir George's own heart. With all respect to Sir George I am afraid that there are few who do not share Lord Cromer's view that Gordon was the last man who should have been sent to the Soudan on the mission entrusted to him. Here is Lord Cromer's description of the man:

"He was extremely pugnacious. He was hot-headed, impulsive, and swayed by his emotion. It is a true saying that 'he that would govern others, first should be the master of himself.' One of the leading features of General Gordon's strange character was his total absence of self-control. He was liable to fits of ungovernable and often of most unreasonable passion. He formed rapid opinions without deliberation, and rarely held to one opinion for long. His Journal, in which his thoughts from day to day are recorded, is, even in the expurgated form which it was published, a mass of inconsistencies. He knew nothing of English public life, or, generally, of the springs of action which move governing bodies. . . . General Gordon does not appear to have possessed any of the qualities which would have fitted him to undertake the difficult task in hand." It appears that about ten years ago Lord Cromer submitted his narrative of the events in the Soudan to his relative the late Lord Northbrook. Lord Northbrook returned the manuscript with the following marginal note:—"I am afraid that all this is quite true. As I had the misfortune to be a member of Mr. Gladstone's Government, I have to bear the blame with the rest. But I resolved never to serve under him again."

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

THE LONG SERVICE LOCAL ARMY.

Suggested Re-establishment.

IMPOSSIBILITY OF REDUCTIONS MAINTAINED.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, MARCH 19.

In reply to a question put by Sir H. Cotton alleging that a punitive force of police was quartered in Eastern Bengal not with the object of keeping the peace but suppressing the National movement, and that the Mahomedans and Hindus who are not sympathetic with the Swadeshi movement were exempted from the special tax. Mr. Morley said that he had no reason to believe that the Local Government failed in its duty or apportioned the cost. With reference to political opinions he did not propose to make any enquiry.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Luttrell asked what was the use of promoting education, railways and social improvement in India, if we were still obliged to preserve order by a larger force than during the Boer War.

Mr. Hart-Davies advocated the re-establishment of the old, Long-Service Local Army for India, the latter recruiting and paying for her own force. This, he said, would simplify all Military problems extremely and would enable a saving to be made of thirteen or fourteen million pounds.

Mr. Haldane, referring to the possibility of the reduction of the forces in India, spoke in a similar strain to Mr. Asquith in his speech in the debate on the Reduction of Armaments. We were responsible, Mr. Haldane said, for the safety and well-being of three hundreds of millions of people, and we had to have a certain number of white troops in the country, as we were a white Government.

Sir Henry Cotton urged the reduction of the Army in India, in view of the Anglo-Russian Agreement and of our satisfactory position in relation to all the Powers.

Mr. Rees said, he did not believe that it would be possible to re-establish the old, Long-Service Army in India and even if it could be re-established it would be very costly. Russia, he said, who was relieved of all responsibility in the Far East, was now stronger than ever in the Middle East.

LATER.

In the House of Commons last night, on the discussion of Army Estimates, Mr. Luttrell moved the reduction of the effective by ten thousand men. It was unnecessary he said to maintain so many in South Africa, Egypt and India.

Mr Haldane replying referred to Lord Roberts' criticisms of the Artillery. He said there had been no reduction of the regular Artillery and none would be made till we had four or five capable men to replace every man removed. He quoted opinions which he had obtained of the Army Council, of General French and of various Artillery experts, all of whom were opposed to Lord Roberts. Mr. Haldane believed that after six months' training, on mobilization, the territorial Artillery would be an effective force.

The motion was negatived and the estimate was voted.

THE POWERS AND THE PORTE.

Support for the Danube-Adriatic Railway.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

The Russian, Italian, and French Embassies have called the attention of the Porte to the Danube-Adriatic Railway and supported the scheme.

GERMANS IN DAMARALAND.

Serious Brush with Rebels.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

Two German Officers and twelve men have been severely wounded in a fight with Damaraland rebels.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

The Object of the Cruise.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

President Roosevelt, interviewed by a representative of "Le Temps," said he had sent the fleet round the world in order to make Americans feel pride in the Navy and also to show other nations America's strength.

THE WRECK OFF CAPE JUBY.

Cruiser to the Rescue.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

Admiral Philibert has sent the cruiser "Cassard" to the rescue of the crew of the French trawler "Baleine" which has been wrecked off Cape Juby.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

Lord Mountmorres, who is yachting along the Morocco coast, has gone to Cape Juby to ransom the captive crew of the "Baleine."

ARMS FOR THE BURGHERS.

A Pension for Steyn.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

A despatch from Bloemfontein states that Mr. Fischer, the Premier, has announced that a new law will shortly confer on every Burgher the right to carry a gun, and he hoped that some day it would be compulsory for every man to have a rifle.

The Parliament has unanimously granted pensions to ex-President Steyn and Mr. Reitz.

MR. KEIR HARDIE'S RETURN.

Labourites' Welcome Preparations.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

The Labourites are preparing a great demonstration to welcome Mr. Keir Hardie on his return from his tour.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

What the Two-Power Standard May Mean.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, MARCH 20.

Lord Tweedmouth writes to Lord Cawdor explaining the phrase he used in the House of Lords debate—"any reasonably probable combination."

Lord Tweedmouth says it was intended as an extension, and not as a restriction of the definition of the two-Power standard. He says that he goes the whole length of Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman's and Mr. Asquith's statements and perhaps a little further.

THE MONETARY SITUATION.

Scarcity of Specie.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

It is noteworthy that in spite of a three per cent. bank rate, money is not abundant.

The issues of Grand Trunk Pacific Bonds for £2,000,000 has proved a total failure.

KING EDWARD'S HOLIDAY.

Lunches with Spanish Officers.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

King Edward motored to San Sebastian where he entertained to lunch the officers of the Zamora Regiment, of which he is Colonel.

His Majesty has telegraphed to King Alfonso expressing his pleasure in entertaining the officers.

THE COMING BUDGET.

LONDON, MARCH 19.

Mr. Asquith, in the House of Commons, said that the Budget would not be introduced before Easter.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE AND GRAND NATIONAL.

Latest Betting.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

The latest betting on the Lincolnshire is as follows:—

4 to 1 against Land League.
11 to 2 against Bellatrix.
10 to 1 against Rockbourne.
100 to 9 against Longcroft.
100 to 8 against Kaffir Chief, Forerunner and Portland Bay.

The betting on the Grand National is:—

7 to 1 against Seisdon Prince.
8 to 1 against Tom West.
9 to 1 against Springlock.
12 to 1 against Leinster.
100 to 8 against Kirkland.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

The death is announced of Sir John Eliot, K.C.I.E.

[Sir J. Eliot was in his seventieth year and was Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India. Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, he was bracketed 2nd Wrangler in 1869 and 1st Smith's Prizeman and became a Fellow of his College. He was appointed Professor of Mathematics in the Roorkee Engineering College, proceeded to the Muir Central College at Allahabad and Professor of Physics at the Presidency College, Calcutta. Sir John wrote considerably upon cyclones and meteorology in Asia.]

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

Visits Aligarh en Route.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

H. E. the Viceroy leaves Calcutta privately by train on the afternoon on Saturday the 28th and arrives privately on the 29th at Allahabad where colours will be presented to the Middlesex Regiment. Gwalior will be reached on the 30th privately and a field day attended on 31st, after which His Excellency will shoot until the 21st April when Gwalior will be left privately. The following day Dehra Dun will be reached privately, His Excellency inspecting the Mahomedan College at Aligarh en route. The subsequent dates until his arrival at Simla will be notified later.

The party accompanying the Viceroy on tour will be Colonel Dunlop Smith, P. S. V., Lieutenant Colonel Brooke, M. S. V., Captain Lord F. Scott Jelg and Gibbs, Aides-de-Camp.

CHIDAMBARAM PILLAY'S CASE.

Revision Petition Admitted by High Court.

Release on Bail Refused.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, MARCH 20.

To-day before the Chief Justice in the Madras High Court, Mr. T. Rangachariar High Court Vakil, applied for permission to move before his Lordship for the release on bail of Chidambaram Pillay and two others, now in custody in Tinnevelly under the orders of the District Magistrate. His Lordship enquired what was the special nature of the application which necessitated the learned Vakil moving before him instead of before the Admission Court doing criminal work. Mr. Rangachariar having mentioned the special features his Lordship said he was unwilling to set inconvenient precedent by consenting to hear an application and directed the application to be made before Mr. Justice Boddam who was sitting in order to hear such applications. At the same time he informed the learned Vakil that he would be glad to sit with Mr. Justice Boddam if the latter thought it necessary to do so. Mr. Rangachariar then made his application before Mr. Justice Boddam who decided it best to have the assistance of the Chief Justice.

This afternoon their Lordships passed orders admitting the revision petition, holding the District Magistrate's procedure under Section 107 incorrect. Had the matter been one of discretion their Lordships would certainly have declined to interfere, but they held, however, that the release of Chidambaram Pillay and his comrades on bail could not be ordered.

AMONG the persons mentioned in the "London Gazette" is Davis Needlestitcher, of Stepney Green who carried on the business of a ladies' tailor.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE.

H. H. Sir Aga Khan Elected President.

VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALIGARH, MARCH 19.

The adjourned meeting of the All India Muslim League was held this morning at 8 o'clock, under the presidency of Moulvie Mian Mohamed Shahdin.

The first matter taken up was the appointment of the President, when Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmed, of Bombay, proposed, and Nawab Vikar-ul-Mulk Bahadur, seconded that His Highness Sir Aga Khan, G.C.I.E., be elected President of the League. The proposal was received with enthusiasm and was carried with acclamation.

Major Syed Hasan Bilgrami was then elected Secretary.

The consideration of the reform scheme of the Government of India was next taken up and the League resolved that the matter be entrusted to a Committee, consisting of Nawab Vikar-ul-Mulk, Major Syed Hasan Bilgrami, and Moulvies Rafiuddin Ahmed, Aftab Ahmed Khan, Yakub Hasan, Sait Zahoor Mohamed, Fazle Hussain, and Nabibulla, who were empowered to formulate and send up to the Government of India an opinion on the said scheme, after a careful examination of the views received from members of the League, as well as the Provincial League of the Punjab and other Associations in different parts of India.

The League then discussed the separation of executive and judicial functions. Moulvie Mian Mahomed Shafi proposed and Moulvie Aftab Ahmed Khan seconded that this meeting is of opinion that, in view of the stage of administrative progress which the country had reached, it is in the highest degree desirable that, so far as may be, judicial functions should be separated from executive functions, as the combination of the two in one officer tends not infrequently to defeat the ends of justice. The League fully approves of the experiment of separation of the two kinds of functions, which it is proposed to try in certain districts of Eastern Bengal and Assam; and suggests that similar experiments be tried, with due regard to local circumstances, in the other Provinces of India. The resolution was adopted after an interesting discussion.

In the afternoon meeting, the League entered upon the consideration of the subjects which were dealt with in the address presented to the Viceroy by the Mohamedan Deputation, when the following Resolution was proposed by Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmed, of Bombay, seconded by moulvie Aftab Ahmad Khan, of the United Provinces, supported by and Yakub Hasan, of Madras and Moulvie Ghulam Sadik, of the Punjab, and was carried, that the League respectfully calls the attention of the Government to the prayers embodied in the address presented by the All India Mohamedan Deputation to His Excellency the Viceroy, and earnestly hopes that the Government will be pleased to take steps to grant such of those prayers that have not yet been acceded to. In particular the League would invite attention to the following matters:—

(1) The imperative necessity which exists in India for the appointment of a Mohamedan Judge to each of the High Courts and Chief Courts of this country, where such appointment has not already been made.

(2) The urgent need for giving Mohamedans their proper share of appointments in the various branches of the public service, as the existing disparity as regards numbers, between Mohamedans and members of other communities in the Government Service has resulted in unduly depressing the status of the former, and if allowed to continue, would tend to intensify the dissatisfaction caused by the present state of things.

(3) The vital importance of adequate representation of Mohamedans as a distinct community on the Legislative Councils, both Imperial and Provincial, and also on Municipal, District, and Local Boards throughout the country, by enabling Mohamedan voters to elect their own representatives.

(4) The great desirability of safeguarding Mohamedan educational interests by securing the due representation of Mohamedans on Syndicates and Senates of Universities, and on Text-book Committees connected with the Department of Public Instruction.

A Resolution, thanking His Excellency the Viceroy for appointing Moulvi Karamat Husain as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court and confirming Mr. Sharfuddin in his appointment as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, was unanimously adopted.

A Resolution of condolence in connection with the death of Khalifa Mohamed Husain, of Patiala, was also passed.

The Members of the Central Committee of the League were then elected for the whole of India.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair and three cheers for His Majesty the King-Emperor.

ALIGARH, MARCH 20.

In reply to the telegram requesting the acceptance of the Presidentship of the All India Muslim League, His Highness Sir Aga Khan, of Bombay, wires as follows:—

"Much touched by the generous invitation to become the President of the League. Though I should have gladly seen some one else President and myself only a member, yet I feel that modesty might be misunderstood for want of patriotism, so I gladly accept. I only hope you will during the immediate future, not expect me to do much, but I will later be heart and soul with you."

LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The fact that we have some thousands of fine men in our Merchant Service, who, if given the opportunity, would make the finest Volunteer Corps in the Empire, seems to have been overlooked until two years ago, when the Legion of Frontiermen came into existence.

A very small percentage of the men are enrolled in the Royal Naval Reserve, and quite recently, probably as one of the economies of the present Government, they have practically stopped taking officers into that Service. This really means that there are thousands of officers who ought (and are willing) to be preparing themselves for the defence of their country, are unable to do so for the lack of opportunity.

But happily we have in the Council of the Legion a far-seeing body of the most eminent officers of both Services who realize their value to the Empire.

In the Legion we have an Imperial Volunteer Corps which will eventually have commands in every seaport of importance in the Empire, thus giving members the opportunity of training wherever they go.

The aim of the Legion is to give these men the opportunity of preparing themselves for war, principally to use a rifle, to be expert signalmen, and to render first aid to the wounded, so that with the splendid qualifications they already possess, they would be of great assistance if they were required.

We have the nucleus of a command for Bombay, over thirty men in shore appointments having applied for membership, and thirteen officers and engineers afloat,

Civil and Marine engineers are eligible as Frontiersmen, and we hope to enrol a good many residents in Bombay. Just as this movement has the support and sympathy of the most eminent men in Great Britain, we have the support of many prominent gentlemen in Bombay, thirteen having expressed a wish to be honorary members. Men already pledged cannot join.

Intending members must submit their names and qualifications to the Organizing Officer, A. E. Boyd, Esq., Custom House, Bombay.—Yours, etc.,

H. E. JOHNSON,
Honorary Secretary, L. F.

7, Sandhurst House, Bombay.

THE ZAKKA EXPEDITION.

Sir James Willcocks' Despatch.

MENTION FOR BRAVERY AND GALLANTRY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

Sir James Willcocks in a Despatch states that he received orders on February 3rd from the Commander-in-Chief to be ready to start in a few days and held the matter secret. "This was done and field service clothing was only served out within a few hours of starting. The actual operations which have already been fully described, are set forth in the same. Immediately the terms of settlement were arrived at, secret orders were issued for the entire force to leave as from the time we left China till the arrival in British India not a shot was fired by the Zakkas. I am glad to be able to add that during the entire operations not a single follower, public or private, was killed or wounded by the enemy and only one rifle was lost in the Barar Valley and that was on a man while skirmishing in a thick bush.

"I beg to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the soldierly conduct of all ranks of the force. Their good discipline and cheerfulness have been very marked and it has, indeed, been an honour to command such a division in the field. The fact that the brigades were employed intact under their own Generals and staff as they had been trained in peace time, made the carrying out of operations a simple matter and my own share in the work was appreciably lightened by having been allowed to select my staff officers from the Permanent Divisional Establishment. That the enemy lost heavily whilst our own casualties were small is due to the improvement in musketry training and the manner in which the troops worked and ran up shelter at the shortest possible notice. Sangars and pits quickly covered the bivouacks and the piquets were secured against a rush at night by wire entanglements etc. Constant night work now forms a regular part of Infantry training and the results were very plainly visible as far as hill-fighting is concerned. Our troops had little to learn from the Afridis.

"The various departments of the force were all satisfactory and especially the Transport service where the discipline and order that prevailed were very noticeable. The good conduct of the Khyber Rifles, many of whom were actually serving against their own kith and kin, is a remarkable testimony to their efficiency and loyalty. Not a rifle was lost by the Corps nor was there a single desertion.

"The enemy's losses, as far as can be ascertained at present, have been at least 70 killed, and the wounded may reasonably be put at a much higher figure.

"I have much pleasure in bringing to the favourable notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the names of the following officers and others who have rendered exceptionably good service:—

"Divisional Staff.—General H. Mullaly, Colonel A. Money, Captain A. Whateman, Somersets; Captain N. Livingstone Learmouth, 15th Hussars, Lieutenant Langhorne, A. D. C., Captain E. Rich, R. E., Major A. Mullaly, Transport.

"First Brigade.—Brigadier General Anderson, Colonel J. Stewart, 2/5 Gurkhas, Captain D. E. Sausmerez R. A., and Captain a Tarver, 124 Baluchis.

"Second Brigade:—Major General Barrett, Captain K. Buchanan and Major Vandeleur, Seaforths. Had Major Hon'ble Forbes Sempill lived he would also have received mention. Captain Rice and Lieutenant Shirley, 54th Sikhs, for gallantry before China 18th February. Captain Villiers Stuart 55th Rifles; Lieutenant C. Harcourt, 88th Punjabis. Captain H. Bickford, Khyber Rifles.

"Pottitical Officers:—Colonel Roos-Keppel, Khan Bahadur Sahabzada Abdul Carrim, Assistant Political Officer, and Mr. J. W. Littlewood, District Traffic Manager, N. W. Railway.

"Havildar Hari Singh, Naik Gurdit Singh and Sepoy Munshi, 18th Punjabis; Sepoy Bishu Singh, 54th Sikhs, and Havildar Tar Buz, in Khyber Rifles, are mentioned for distinguished gallantry in the field."

In an Appendix the following are mentioned for extra work during the operations:—Colonels Biddulph, 19th Lancers; Kerin, R. A. M. C., Dundee, R. E. Major Sanders, Transport; Gregory, 19th Lancers; Lucas, 5th Gurkhas; Captains Lushington, Transport; Dyke, 127th Baluchis; Charles, R. E. Witherward, 53rd Sikhs; Sergeant Charlton, 3rd Mountain Battery; Sergeant Major Norman Reid, Seaforths; Colour Sergt. John Smith, Seaforths, and Conductor Little, 6th Mule Corps. Also native officers and men.

Our casualities—One British officer killed and 4 wounded. Non-commissioned offices and men—2 killed and 33 wounded.

The following papers are published in the Gazette of India":—Letter from the Chief of Staff to the Secretary, Army Department, submitting General Willcocks' Despatch by order of the Commander-in-Chief:—

"The speed with which the force was mobilised and the rapidity of its movement into the Bazar Valley, and subsequent operations, contributed very largely to the quick and successful termination of the expedition. To secure speed in movement the troops operated on a much lighter scale of equipment and transport than has been adopted on previous occasions on the frontier. But although the climatic conditions were severe the health of the force and the admirable spirit displayed by all ranks left nothing to be desired. The losses inflicted on the Zakka Khel were unusually heavy and were due to the excellent handling of the troops and to their training and efficiency in the field.

"Lord Kitchener is confident that the Government of India will agree with him in considering that the work done reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. His Excellency desires especially to commend to the notice of Government the excellent services of Major General Sir James Willcocks, who so ably conducted the operations and brought them so rapidly to a successful conclusion. He trusts also that those who have been brought to notice in this Despatch may be considered deserving of commendation."

In ordering the publication of the papers the Governor-General in Council concurs with the Commander-in-Chief in his opinion that the able manner in which the operations were conducted reflects great credit on Major-General Sir James Willcocks and the Brigade Commanders and Staff working under his orders. His Excellency-in-Council also shares with the Commander-in-Chief the appreciation of the soldierly conduct displayed by all ranks throughout the operations.

THE ULSOOR MURDER SEQUEL.

Trial of the Police.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGALORE, MARCH 20.

Sub-Inspectors Haudin and Venkata Subbiah of the local police, who were arrested and committed to jail on charges relating to complicity in the recent Ulsoor murder were brought up to-day before the District Magistrate when Mr. Hammington, D. S. P., made an application for a further remand of one week for filing charge sheets. The remand was granted and the request for bail refused. Haudin intends moving the Madras High Court to-morrow for bail and for the transfer of the trial of his case to some other Justice of the Peace, chiefly on the ground that this Magistrate held the preliminary enquiry and is likely to be prejudiced.

Head Constable Daniel and Venkata Subba Rao who have been on bail in the same connection have been also remanded to custody and their case will be heard on the 23rd instant.

DELHI TREASURY ROBBERY.

Deficit to be Made Good.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, MARCH 20.

In the Delhi Treasury robbery the police have only recovered Rs. 24,000 of the total Rs. 30,000 misappropriated, and the loss therefore, by the Treasury Regulations, falls jointly upon the Government Treasurer and the Collector, the latter being personally responsible for the entire amount of Government currency reserve at Delhi, approximately 55 lakhs.

COONOOR ASSAULT CASE.

Prosecution Stopped.

VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

COONOOR, MARCH 19.

The further hearing of the case against Second Lieutenant Hilliard Watts, of the 2nd Dorset Regiment, who was charged with alleged housebreaking, trespass, and mischief, was continued this afternoon at Ooty, before Mr. L. E. Buckley, I.C.S., Justice of the Peace. Eleven witnesses for the prosecution were examined.

The story of the Prosecution, it will be remembered, was that Lieutenant Watts, with two other of his comrades, Lieutenants Wigley and McCarthy, both of the Dorset Regiment, were alleged to have ordered a carriage from Rungiah Gounden, who is the proprietor of the Nilgiri Tonga Company, and kept the carriage for the greater portion of the night of the 17th February in driving about, Watts in the end assaulting Rungiah Gounden. Furthermore, that McCarthy, Wigley, and Watts were alleged to have entered Rungiah-Gounden's stables with swords and did considerable damage; that Watts caught hold of a pony from the stables, and mounted on it with McCarthy and Wigley followed to Wellington. Every one of the Prosecution witnesses was considerably shaken in cross-examination by the pleader for the accused, Mr. L. Schmidt.

The jury, after hearing the eleventh witness, retired and after the lapse of half an hour, returned and pronounced their verdict thus to the Magistrate: "We, members of the jury, having duly considered the evidence for the prosecution, are of opinion that it is unnecessary to proceed further with this case, as the evidence is conflicting and unreliable, and open to the suspicion of having been concocted. The Magistrate then, under Section 289 of the Criminal Procedure Code, acquitted Watts of the charges of mischief, trespass, and house-breaking, and also acquitted Wigley and McCarthy of mischief and trespass.

Mr. M. S. Mullally, Superintendent of Police, and the Solicitor who appeared for Rungiah Gounden thought that the opinion of the jury would be a reflection on the Police and his client, respectively. The Magistrate however, remarked that he could not go against the jury.

The verdict of the Jury has given satisfaction.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

SOUTHERN ARMY ORDERS.

79th Carnatic Infantry.—Major L. J. Andrews, 2nd-in-Command, to be Commandant, vice Brevet-Colonel H. T. King, vacated. Dated 29th February.

80th Carnatic Infantry.—Captain A. V. Searle, Double Company Officer, to be pro tem. 4th Double Company Commander, vice Major J. S. Hodding, retired Dated 1st March.

Staff.—Captain E. C. W. Conway-Gordon, 3rd Skinners, Horse, to officiate as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Nasirabad Brigade, vice Major F. L. Grove, transferred. Dated 2nd March.

Captain C. S. Pike, 10th Pioneers, to officiate as Station Staff Officer, 1st Class, Poona, vice Captain A. C. S. B. Ellis, 121st Pioneers, proceeded on leave, or until further orders. Dated 7th February.

Captain H. C. Wooldrige, 109th Infantry, to officiate as Station Staff Officer, 1st Class, Poona, vice Captain C. S. Pike, 107th Pioneers, relieved. Dated 1st March

Captain B. C. Kauntze, 86th Carnatic Infantry, to be Garrison Quarter-Master, Fort St. George, vice Captain C. D. Field, vacated. Dated 1st March.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

Captain J. Kirkwood, I. M. S., has been appointed to the permanent medical charge of the 95th Russell's Infantry.

Lieut.-Colonel J. Mesk, R. A. M. C., has been appointed to officiate as Sanitary Officer Army Headquarters vice Lieut.-Colonel A. R. Aldridge, R.A.M.C., on leave.

The Camp office of the Principal Medical Officer to His Majesty's Forces in India will close in Calcutta on Friday the 28th March.

BRITISH INFANTRY RELIEFS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

British Infantry Reliefs for 1908-09 are as follows:—

1st Border Regiment, Gibraltar to Wellington.
2nd Dorsetshires, Wellington to Madras and Bellary.
2nd Cheshires, Madras and Bellary to Secundarabad.
1st Manchesters, Secundarabad to Kamptee.
1st Lincolnshires, Kamptee to Poona.
1st Somersetshire Light Infantry, Poona to England.
2nd Liverpool Regiment, England to Subathu and Jutogh.
2nd Berkshires, Subathu and Jutogh to Meerut.
1st Royal Irish Rifles, Meerut to Maymyo.
2nd East Yorkshire Regiment, Maymyo to Fyzabad.
2nd Shropshire Light Infantry, Fyzabad to Dinapore and Dum Dum.
1st Highland Light Infantry, Dinapore and Dum Dum to Lucknow.
1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Lucknow to Meiktila, Mandalay and Thyetmyo.
1st Essex Regiment Meiktila, Mandalay and Thayetmyo to Sitapur.
1st West Riding Regiment, Sitapur to Ambala.
1st Royal Sussex, Ambala to Rawalpindi.
1st Royal Irish, Rawalpindi to Agra.
1st Royal West Surrey Regiment, Agra to Aden.
1st Bedfordshire, Aden to England.
4th Worcestershire, Malta to Bareilly.
1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, Bareilly to Rangoon and Port Blair.
1st Devonshire, Rangoon and Port Blair to England.
1st Royal Scots, England to Ranikhet.
1st South Lancashires, Ranikhet to Lahore Cantonment.
1st Gloucestershires, Lahore Cantonment, Bombay and Deolali.
2nd Royal Scots Bombay and Deolali to England.
2nd Royal West Kent, Singapore to Lebong.
1st The King's (Royal Lancasters), Lebong to Lucknow.
1st Durham Light Infantry, Luckuow to Nasirabad and Neemuch.
1st Liverpool, Nasirabad and Neemuch to England.

TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

Royal Indian Marine ship "Hardinge" arrived at Karachi on the evening of 17th instant having on board the 129th Baluchis, British Officers 8, Native Officers 17, other rank 782, horses 9, for Hongkong, Singapore, and Mauritius, battalion of the Royal Garrison Artillery—British Officer one, native officers 2, other ranks 92.

The 105th Mahratta Light. Infantry embarked at Karachi on the Royal Indian Marine ship "Dufferin" on the 14th instant and sailed on the 14th to Bombay en route to Hongkong. Strength—British officers 8 Native Officers 18, other ranks, 809 and horses. 2.

The "Northbrook" sailed from Madras on 17th March for North China with the following on board:—The 76th Infantry, British Officers 9, Native officers 14, non-commissioned. officers and men 787, native followers 68, and horses 9; 91st Infantry—one man; 93rd infantry, one company, Sappers and Miners, British Sergeants two, Sappers 13, followers 1, Royal Irish Rifles—one man; muleteers 66 for postal service.

KARACHI, MARCH, 20.

R. I. M. Steamer "Hardinge" sails for Bombay to-morrow. She will take a number of details and the depot of the 105th Mahratta Light Infantry.

The Hired Transport "Bewa" sailed hence for Southampton yesterday with 41 officers, 25 ladies, 256 men, 68 women, 129 children.

South Wales Borderers left this morning for Quetta.

By a clever device a Paris cook named Celine has been convicted of stealing £300. Her master suspected that one of his three servants robbed him. Like the lady in M. Bernstein's play "The Thief," his wife was careless with money, and left it in an open drawer. He pasted a hair across this drawer, and sent Celine to dust the room. When she left the room the hair had been broken. She was arrested at once. Stolen money, jewels, and share certificates were found in her box.

THE LATEST FROM HOME.

(SPECIALLY PREPARED BUDGET.)

LONDON, MARCH 6.

THE WEEK'S MAIL SUMMARY.

HOME.

Court.—The King last week presented the Edward medal, for brave rescues, to two coal-miners.—His Majesty changed the date of his departure for Biarritz from Monday to Thursday of this week so as to receive the Dowager Empress of Russia, who arrived on Wednesday. The King paid a farewell visit that day to the Prime Minister, who is suffering from the weakness inevitable to an attack of influenza.

Drama.—Lady Barbarity, by J. C. Snaith, has made its appearance at the Comedy, and the "Admirals Crichton," by J. M. Barrie, has been revived at the Duke of York's Theatre.

Ecclesiastical.—York Convocation and the National Society have strongly condemned the Education Bill, which on the other hand, has been generally endorsed by the Free Church Congress.—The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster has issued an address to his diocese on Modernism. M. Sabatier gave his second London lecture on this subject on Tuesday.—The Lord Mayor presided on Monday at a meeting on behalf of the Winchester Cathedral Preservation Fund.

Elections.—Mr. S. Baldwin (U.) was on Saturday elected without opposition to his father's seat for west Worcestershire.—At Hastings on Tuesday Mr. A. du Cros (U.) also succeeded his father by a majority of 495 to 3,477.

Glasgow University.—Lord Rosebery has succeeded the late Lord Kelvin as Chancellor.

Ireland.—The investiture of Lord Castletown as a Knight of St. Patrick was held in Dublin Castle on Saturday.—The Lenten pastoral of some of the Roman Catholic Bishops deal with agrarian crime.—Sixteen young men have been sent to prison for cattle-driving.

Law and Police.—The Railway Commissioners have decided that the proposed working agreement between the Great Northern and the Great Central is "ultra vires."—A supplementary rate levied by the Batterson Borough Council has been quashed at the County Sessions.—A firm of surveyors has been condemned to pay £1,750 damages to a client whom they advised to lend £2,500 on houses now said to be almost valueless.—The Tynemouth Corporation has secured an injunction to restrain the Tyne Improvement Commissioners from deepening the channel to the sea beyond the limit allowed by an Act of 1861.

London.—The Country Council has decided not to guarantee interest on the Port's stock contemplated by the Government's forthcoming Bill, unless the Government shares the liability.—The French Ambassador presided on Saturday at a dinner of the Students' Union of the London School of Economics.—Deaths from influenza last week numbered 141.

Parliament.—In the House of Lords, on February 27, Lord Lovat's Crofters Holdings (Scotland) Bill was read a second time, the Government dissenting. On March 3 Lord Courtney obtained a second reading for his Bill allowing boroughs to adopt proportional representation at their elections.—In the House of Commons, on February 28, Mr. Asquith brought in the Government's Licensing Bill, which contemplates the reduction of licences to a fixed number per head of population, and limits the compensation scheme to 14 years. On the 28th, a private member's Women's Enfranchisement Bill was read a second time, a hostile amendment being rejected by 271 to 92. On March 2, a Liberal member proposed a resolution for the reduction of armaments. Mr. Asquith moved an amendment favouring such economies as were consistent with the adequate defence of the Empire. The resolution was rejected by 320 to 73, and the debate on the amendment was adjourned. On the 3rd, the Government's naval programme was criticized by Mr. Balfour and others as illusory and insufficient.

On the 4th Mr. Haldane made his introductory statement on Army matters. Sir J. Lease moved a resolution that the high price of bread was due to natural causes, and that any import duty on wheat would tend to raise it still higher. A Unionist amendment was rejected by 293 to 90, and the debate was adjourned.—A committee has been taking evidence for and against the proposed extension of the Infant Life Protection Act to houses where only one child is kept.

Sport.—Ireland beat Scotland in a Rugby football match on Saturday, and Wales beat France at Cardiff on Monday.—The Oxford crew for the boat-race has resumed work at Henley after an interval caused by illness.—A committee of inquiry has decided that, as far as it can ascertain, veiled professionalism does not exist in the Rugby game.

The Liquor Trade.—The Licensing Bill is being vigorously opposed by the trade.—The Royal Commission on Whisky began taking evidence on Monday.

Wills.—Sir H. E. Colvile left estate valued at £38,996.—Charitable and religious institutions will receive £61,200 from Lord Overtoun's estate, over, £36,500 from that of Mr. J. R. Turle, about half of the £35,415 left by the widow of the Rev. W. H. Curtler, and nearly £25,000 under the will of Mr. W. R. Grubb.

THE EMPIRE.

Australia.—The Queensland Government proposes to introduce the referendum, in cases of deadlock between the two Houses, and to promote extensive railway construction.—The return match between M. C. C. and South Australia has ended in a draw.

Canada.—The Prince of Wales will take part in the celebration of the tercentenary of Quebec and the nationalization of the battlefields, next July.—In a debate last week on the treaty-making power the Federal Prime Minister declared that the Dominion had no grievance in the matter.—Immigrants are now required to come to Canada direct from their land of origin or adoption.—The Quebec Bridge disaster is attributed by the report of a Royal Commission to a fundamental defect in design, not to faulty material or construction.—In New Brunswick the Conservatives have returned to power after 25 years.

South Africa.—At a meeting on Monday between the Transvaal Premier and farmers near Pretoria, General Botha showed the folly of erecting a tariff fence round the Transvaal; but a resolution was carried in favour of cancelling the Customs Union and reimposing protective duties. The Colonial Secretary, General Smuts, says that if a Customs tariff is adopted against other parts of South Africa, it will lead to war.—Mr. Reyersbach, the retiring President of the Chamber of Mines at Johannesburg, in an address, last week expressed generally a favourable view of the industrial situation.—The Premier of Cape Colony says that he favours one Parliament for South Africa. Dr. Jameson predicts the disintegration of the South African party in Cape Colony.

THE UNITED STATES.

Congress.—The Banking Committee of the House has reported favourably on the Fowler Currency Bill.—Of the 13 conventions adopted by The Hague Conference ten have been sent to the Senate for ratification.

A Fire in a school at Cleveland on Wednesday destroyed the lives of at least 146 children and nine teachers.

An Anarchist on Monday shot and wounded the Chicago Chief of Police and two others, but was then shot dead himself.

FOREIGN.

Argentina.—A bomb was thrown at the President on Friday, but failed to explode.

Balkan Railways.—Russia has invited the Powers to support the Servian project for a line connecting the Danube with the Adriatic Sea.

Belgium.—The King, it is said, now agrees to the Congo Budget being voted by the Belgian Government, and to the abolition of the Crown Domain.

Bulgaria.—Prince Ferdinand was married to Princess Eleanor of Reuss-Kostritz last week.

China.—The Government has come to an agreement with the British and Chinese Corporation regarding the Che-kiang railway loan.

Egypt.—An outline is published of the extension of local government now contemplated.—A scheme has been adopted by the Public Works Department for the drainage of Cairo.—The country's revenue for 1907 exceeded the expenditure by £E2,087,405.

Italy.—The Chamber has rejected by 333 to 160 the proposal to abolish religious instruction in schools.

Morocco.—A large body of tribesmen was defeated last week by French troops, who lost 13 killed and 36 wounded.—Raisuli has refused an offer to appear at the London Hippodrome.

Persia.—An attempt on the Shah's life by bombs last week failed, but 12 other persons were killed and many wounded.—The complete evacuation of the Bulak by the Turkish troops is announced by the Porte.

Portugal.—The decree adding £38,000 to the Civil List has been revoked.—The Premier declares that there will be complete freedom at the forthcoming election.

Russia.—Seven terrorists were hanged on Sunday for an attempt on the lives of the Grand Duke Nicholas and the Minister of Justice. Fresh outrages are reported. It is announced that the Government's naval rebuilding programme contemplates merely the spending of £3,000,000 annually for the next few years.

OBITUARY.—Lord Lisblithgow; the Bishop of Bombay; Lord Hemphill; Lieutenant-General Arthur Lambton; Major-General Hamilton, V. C.; Major-General Peake; Sir Dominic Corrughi; Colonel Sir R. Elson; Canon Cromwell; Sir John Shearer; Dr. Silvester; Sir Alfred Cooper; Sir H. Clarke-Jervoise; Mr. Slaughter, the musician; Miss Pauline Lucca; Miss Mary Grant, sculptor; and in Canada, General Vidal and Judge Gillies.—"Times."

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

THE ZAKKA KHEL EXPEDITION.

In the House of Lords on Monday, March 2, the Earl of Crewe read out for the information of their Lordships the terms upon which military operations against the Zakka Khel have been concluded. The announcement was the same as that communicated by the Secretary of State for India (Mr. Morley) to the House of Commons.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN PERSIA.

Lord Curzon of Kedleston asked the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether the autograph promise of the Shah of Persia given to his Majesty's Government in March 1889, and repeated on several occasions at a later date that Great Britian should have priority in the construction of any southern railway to Teheran; that if concessions for railways were given to others in the north, a similar concession should be granted to an English company in the south; and that no southern railway concession in Persia should be granted to any foreign company without consultation with his Majesty's Government, which promise was referred to by Lord Cranborne in the House of Commons on Feb. 18, 1903, and by the Marqu

but it is only fair to remember that while, as I hope and believe; that Agreement will produce in time a very considerable effect on the military situation in India, you must remember that Anglo-Indian military requirements never have been and never can be governed solely—I might almost say mainly—by the possibilities of an invasion on the North-West frontier. (Opposition cheers.) That is only one of the contingencies against which you have to guard; and your force in India, which was fixed as far back as the time immediately after the Mutiny, was fixed in reference to a large number of considerations quite independent of the possibility of invasion—considerations many of which still have, or ought to have, as much weight as they had at the time. I do not think it is expedient or desirable to go into detail as to what those considerations are. They are perfectly familiar to any one who has studied the matter, and I only allude to them in order to enter a caveat against the notion that the Anglo-Russian Agreement, important as it is, must necessarily lead in a short space of time to any substantial reduction in the garrison. But this I will say, and I am sure it will be gratifying news to both my hon. friends, that my right hon. friend the Secretary for India is now and has for some time been in close communication with the Indian Government in regard to the whole question of the maintenance and distribution and size of the military forces in India. (Cheers). I think the House ought to be satisfied for the moment with that declaration. I cannot anticipate what will be the result of the deliberations which are taking place, but the House may be quite certain that they will be continued in a serious spirit and with a desire to arrive at a thoroughly satisfactory result.

Mr. Wyndham: The right hon. gentleman pledged the Government to the maintenance of the two-Power standard for the Navy. He touched, not with sufficient firmness, on maintaining the army in India at its present strength, and consequently upon our means of reinforcing that army. The right hon. gentleman informed the House that the Government was corresponding with the Government of India in order, if possible, he supposed, to arrive at some reduction of the Army in India.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: The Government is corresponding with the Government of India as to the size and general condition of the military force in India, and not with the object of arriving at any reduction.

Mr. Balfour said: I have some questions to ask on the real issue that is before us. First, in regard to the Army. Can we or can we not do our duty necessary for the defence of the frontier of India if we carry much further our reductions in the Regular forces of the Crown? Every one who has studied the Indian question knows that if there is to be a war for the defence of the North-West frontier of India it is not going to be a short war, and every one knows also that, if it is not going to be a short war, the natural wastage of war would be especialy great in a country of the climatic conditions of India. Do the Government think that with the inevitable wastage of war we could do with a materially smaller number of Regular troops to deal with the difficulties of the first year or eighteen months of such a campaign? That is a question of purely scientific examination. I agree with the right hon. gentleman who seconded the motion that you must not treat experts as if they were infallible authorities. But, at the same time, it would be folly to ignore them; and I understand that is a folly which the Government are not committing and do not intend to commit. The Chancellor of the Exchequer told us that the whole question of the defence of the frontier of India was being subjected to a most close and critical investigation by those scientific advisers, and that they were entering into it without the slightest "arriere pensee" or any desire unduly to force the decision of that investigation in the direction of reduction. No military position in the world is more essential than the defence of the North-West frontier of India. Though we spent an infinite amount of time and trouble over it, the subject was not complete when we left office, and I am glad to find that the investigations have been taken over by our successors. But have Government the smallest prospect that the military authorities in India will admit that we can deplete the resources in this country of Regular troops which will be required for India far below the necessities there? I greatly doubt it; and if that is so, then the conclusion is that we are not merely dependent on considerations derived from the Cardwell system for keeping up the number of our Regular troops, but that we depend on something more fundamental, more essential, and which is not so arbitrary the mere balance of battalions at home and abroad, for in addition to that, we depend on considerations based on the vulnerability of our frontier in India and the possibility of meeting all military exigencies. (Cheers).

Mr. Haldane: The right hon. gentlemen began his speech with an observation with which I have a great deal of sympathy. He said that in the course of this debate many topics have been discussed which were not germane to the real question, and so long as he maintained that position I think he made some criticism which were of a very fair and appropriate order. There has been some discursiveness about this debate. But then the right hon. gentleman went on to define the real question. In substance it was this: Ought we to go below the state of things which the late Government had provided? The right hon. gentleman's proposition was suitable, and he took as his first illustration of it the question which arises in regard to the Indian frontier. He asked whether, if we made reductions on what the late Government had provided, we should be providing adequately for contingencies in connection with the defence of that frontier. The first observation I have to make to that is that the right hon. gentleman himself does not always seem to have thought that the amount or troops which at once time existed, and existed during the course of his Government, was the proper amount necessary to maintain for the defence of that frontier, because there were put forward in official papers and speeches from his Government propositions for the reduction of the Army by a very substantial amount—fourteen battalions, I think, at one time—and therefore I cannot think that the right hon. gentleman is serious in suggesting that the state of things which he left when he went out of office represents the numerical quantity which ought to be maintained for the defence of the Indian frontier. What was the state of the Army when the right hon. gentleman left office? I admit most cordially his keen interest and desire to put things right. But he did not put things right. (Hear, hear.) He did not leave us with an efficient Army, and an Army which was adequately organised, and the question to-day is not one of keeping these numbers more or less, but a question of putting that Army into such a state of efficiency that we will get much more out of it than we got in his time. That is what underlies the policy of the Government, and it may be that it will turn out that with smaller numbers we shall have a more efficient force for the defence of the North-west frontier if such an occasion should arise than was the state of things under the late Administration. The right hon. gentleman said the Cardwell system is the nearest approach to the two-Power standard that we have in connection with the Army. I agree that it is the nearest approach. In the Cardwell system you have got a system which was devised by Mr. Gladstone and Lord Cardwell forty years ago as being the most economical mode of providing for the defence of an empire. The great advantage of it is overseas. It is a merciful system to the Colonies and to India. One reason why I could never agree on this point with the hon. member for the Abercromby Division was because it departed from the Cardwell system or put a large charge upon the already overburdened Indian frontier,

Sir C. Dilke here interposed a remark about the Government of India.

Mr. Haldane: At any rate, that was the policy of Mr. Gladstone and Lord Cardwell; it is the policy of the present Government, and has been the policy of most responsible statesmen for forty years past. We think that at present the time has come for the review of all those matters for the purpose not merely of cutting down, nor of disregarding efficiency, but with a view to getting efficiency. We feel that there are three reasons on which we can justify reduction. One is because it is not inconsistent with getting increased efficiency. The second, and a very important one, is because economy in Army and Navy administration tends to give you a war chest, and a war chest is one of the most important things you can have for national defence. (Cheers) I would ask hon. and right hon. gentlemen opposite whether they had any plan by which three successive thirty-firsts of March would have brought them to a point at which they would have paid off 40,000,000l of the National Debt. That will be out position by the next 31st of March. The war chest of the nation will be in a more satisfactory position than that of other Powers. There is a third reason why we can reduce consistently with the Cardwell system, and that is because policy in South Africa has led to a state of things which makes it right and profitable to withdraw a considerable number of troops. (Hear, hear.) That enables us to make a very substantial saving, which is estimated at 170,000l a year. These things we believe to be consistent not only with economy but with increased efficiency. The right hon. gentleman went on to say that there were two propositions before the House, as I understood him. One was that if you had a treaty such as the Anglo-Russian Treaty, or the French entente, you had got rid of any necessity for making any provision for the future. I certainly did not understand anybody on this side of the House to maintain that thesis, though some speeches were made with which I did not wholly agree. Some speakers seemed to me inclined to go too fast in their progress and to proceed without any definite standard; but nobody went so far as that I did not hear any one say that we wanted no Army and Navy I believe the right hon. gentleman said the counter-proposition was that treaties were not to be taken into account, that you are really no better off when you have them, because you cannot rely on them. To my mind that proposition is an even greater fallacy than the first. (Hear, hear.) I do not say any more than the right hon. gentleman, that you can absolutely rely upon treaties; they are modified, they change they pass away. I have always held very strongly that, while war may comequickly and your notice may be short preparation for war can never be a short affair; it requires much time and study. (Opposition cheers.) Therefore I agree you can never wholly rely on treaties. Nevertheless, they may and do make a profound change for the better. (Cheers.)

On Mr. Balfour rising to move an amendment, the debate was adjourned.

FIGHTING IN PERSIA.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for Foreign affairs: Whether a pitched battle has been fought between the Kurds and Persians at Suj Bulak; and, if so, with what results.

Mr. Runciman, who replied, said: Fighting of a more or less desultory character took place in January between the Persians and Kurds in this neighbourhood. Kurds have apparently now withdrawn, and the Turks have evacuated Suj Bulak, where they had been in occupation for several days.

THE PUBLICATION OF SEDITIOUS ARTICLES.

Mr. O'Grady asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether, under Section 124 of the Indian Penal Code, bogus defendants are put forward by the authorities on charges of publishing seditious articles in order to forward the Measures now under consideration for dealing with charge of seditious writing in the press; whether there is any intention in such measures that editors of newspapers shall sign a declaration before a magistrate and find substantial securities that they will not publish seditious articles; and whether the police are to be empowered to attack and confiscate presses from which seditious matter in the meaning of the section is circulated.

Mr. Morley: I am not aware to what measures my honourable friend refers, but the answer to his first and third questions, so far as I understand them, is in the negative. As to his second question, provision is already made, in section 106 of the Criminal Procedure Code, for taking security from editors where necessary.

A MAHOMEDAN MISCONCEPTION.

Mr. O'Grady asked the Secretary of State for India; Whether he is aware that the belief is held by the Mahomedans in Eastern Bengal that magistrates will give an order, if requested, to loot and assault Hindoos; and having regard to the danger of such belief, whether he will advise or instruct the Lieutenant-Governor to make inquiries and, if necessary, to take steps to make the position of the law and the Government clear in this matter.

Mr. Morley:—I am not aware of any such belief, and I see no sufficient reason to take action as suggested.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN INDIA.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether, in view of the fact that by far the larger number of cases, civil and magisterial, in India are disposed of by Native judges, he will advise the Government of India to take steps to make this known in order to the proper contradiction of statements made by ex-officials and others to the effect that the administration is harsh and that justice is not done between man and man in India.

Mr. Morley: The fact must, I think, be sufficiently well known, and in any case I should be disposed to doubt whether such action as my hon. friend suggests would prevent mis-statements of the kind he describes.

THE CALCUTTA HIGH COURT.

Sir Henry Cotton asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether his attention has been drawn to a speech of the Chief Justice of Bengal, at the annual dinner of the Calcutta Trades Association on Jan. 29, in which reference was made to a strong rumour current that theCalcuttaHigh Court was to be partitioned and a portion of the Bench sent to Dacca, and invoking the Trades Association and the Chamber of Commerce to make a protest which would preserve the unity of the High Court whether any proposals for the partition of the High Court have in fact been made and, if so, at what stage they have arrived; and whether, having regard to the adverse view which has already been so decidedly expressed in both Anglo-Indian and Indian circles, he will afford the amplest opportunity, for public criticism in India and for discussion in this House before his sanction is given to any such proposals.

Mr. Morley: I have seen a newspaper report of the speech to which this question refers. No proposal for the partitioning of the High Court of Calcutta has been made, nor do I regard any such proposal as in the last degree probable.

ENGLISHMEN IN CASHMERE.

Mr. Fell asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether there are any restrictions by the Indian Government designed to prevent Englishmen residing in Cashmer and purchasing land or going into business there; and, if so, what is the object of these restrictions.

Mr. Morley: No such restrictions are imposed by the Government of India; but the Cashmere Durbar, I understand, have laid down conditions as to the acquisition of land and so forth. This is entirely within their rights. It would be wholly contrary to public policy for the Government of India to interfere with the free discretion of the Durbar of a native State in a matter of the kind.

RAILWAY EXPENDITURE, 1908-1909.

Sir Edward Sassoon asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he is able to make any statement relative to railway expenditure contemplated for 1908-9.

Mr. Morley: The information will, in accordance with the usual practice, be contained in the financial statement of the Government of India, which will be laid before the Governor-General's Council on March 20.

THE AMALGAMATION OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR POLICE.

Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he is aware that the scheme of amalgamation between the police establishments of the Central Provinces and Berar, which was published in the "Central Provinces Gazette" of Nov. 15, 1906, has caused some dissatisfaction among the officers from Berar, on the ground that officers have found themselves, as they conceive, unfairly classified in the amalgamated list, and that, while the Central Provinces officers get an average benefit of 294 rs. per mensem, the Berar officers gain an average only of 150 rs. per mensem; whether he has received any memorials on the subject from aggrieved officers, and will ascertain from the Government of India whether any are on the way; and whether this scheme is a part of the police reorganisation as settled by the Secretary of State, and therefore liable to his special control and revision.

Mr. Morley: I have received no memorials from police officers serving in Berar; if any have been addressed to me the Government of India will not doubt forward them in due course. The reorganisation follows generally the same lines as in other provinces, and the scheme of course requires my approval, as any other scheme of the kind world.

THE TINNEVELLY RIOTS.

Forty Arrests.

FIREARMS TAKEN AWAY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, MARCH 20.

Altogether forty arrests have been made in Tinnevelly in connection with the riots, of which twenty-four have been made in Tuticorin.

As a precautionary measure, all firearms have been taken away from licensed holders.

The majority of the Punitive Police drafted from the Police Reserves have arrived.

Mr. Wallace has been appointed an Additional Sub-Collector in the Tinnevelly District.

QUETTA TRAINS DELAYED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

QUETTA, MARCH 20.

The Karachi Up-Mail, due at Quetta at 12 noon to-day, delayed for nine hours owing to the engine breaking down between Linsay and Mithri, 180 miles from Quetta. The Nushki Up-Mail was also delayed on account of a landslip.

Heavy rain fell at Quetta during last night and to-day.

A PROFESSIONAL fasting man has been fined £25 at Elberfeld for defrauding the public. He undertook to fast forty-seven days in the Thalia Theatre, but during the period he was detected accepting chocolate and other eatables from one of the attendants. He was thereupon arrested. The attendant who supplied him with food was fined thirty shillings for aiding and abetting the fraud.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the production of a folk play, "The Masque of Life," at Bury St. Edmunds. This play represents the origin and rise of an English family bearing the familiar name of Smith, and begins in the time of the Druids, continuing through the Plantaganet and Tudor periods down to modern times. It will consist of six distinct "visions," each of which will occupy twenty-five minutes in presentation.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND THE BRITISH NAVY.

The "Times" of this morning publishes the following letter from its Military Correspondent:—

I consider it my duty to ask you to draw the attention of the public to a matter of grave importance.

It has come to my knowledge that his Majesty the German Emperor has recently addressed a letter to Lord Tweedmouth on the subject of British and German naval policy, and it is affirmed that this letter amounts to an attempt to influence, in German interests, the Minister responsible for our Navy Estimates.

The letter is undoubtedly authentic, and a reply to it has been despatched.

In these circumstances, and as the matter has become an open secret owing to the number of persons to whom it has, most unwisely and unfortunately, been made known, I venture to urge that the letter in question, together with the reply, should be laid before Parliament without delay.

We append the comment of the "Times" upon this communication:—

After a week spent in discussion of our defensive preparations, the letter from our Military Correspondent, which we publish to-day, will cause a shock of painful surprise and just indignation to the people of this country. He says, and we are in a position to confirm his statement, that a letter has recently been written by the German Emperor to Lord Tweedmouth on the subject of British and German naval policy, and that a reply to it has been despatched. It is affirmed that the letter amounts to an attempt to influence, in German interests, the Minister responsible for our Naval Estimates; and no one can be quite credulous enough to believe that the German Emperor would have taken the trouble to write the letter for the sake of anything except German interests. He holds the honorary rank of Admiral of the Fleet in the British Navy; but if that complimentary title is held to warrant a foreign potentate in interfering in our domestic affairs by secret appeals to the head of a department on which the national safety depends, all that can be said is that the abolition of dynastic compliments of this kind is an urgent necessity. Let it be supposed for a moment that King Edward, who has an equally good excuse for interference in German affairs, had addressed such a letter, or any letter, dealing with departmental questions, to the head of the German naval or military department; how would Germany have taken it? There would have been one universal outcry of anger from one end of the country to the other, and the world would have [said that Germany was within her rights. There would have been no need to coax the Reichstag into voting more money; it would have been pressed upon the German Government with an overwhelming demand for a doubled shipbuilding programme as the fitting reply. Or suppose, on the other hand, that a Pitt or a Palmerston at the head of the Navy had been approached in this manner by a foreign potentate; would he have been gratified by such a mark of Imperial condescension or would he have been filled with indignation at the implied estimate of his patriotism and his fidelity to his trust? Would he have waited for pressure from outside before laying such a communication before Parliament? If the German Emperor has anything to say to this country that may tend to a fair understanding about armaments, he has regular and official channels of communication with his Majesty's Government. No private relations that he may graciously maintain with persons in that Government can excuse departure from regular methods and recourse to the private influences to which some men are amenable when they come from an exalted quarter. This country is now entitled to demand publication of the letter and the reply. It may be said, though we hope for the credit of British statesmanship, it will not be said, that the Imperial letter is private. There is no privacy in a matter of this kind. Lord Tweedmouth is a public servant, he has been addressed as a public servant, and solely because he is a public servant, and he has been addressed with regard to the management of a vital portion of the nation's affairs. There is no room for anything but the fullest publicity. The lesson for the country is plain. If there was any doubt before about the meaning of German naval expansion, none can remain after an attempt of this kind to influence the Minister responsible for our Navy in a direction favourable to German interests; an attempt, in other words, to make it more easy for German preparations to overtake our own.

"PERSONAL" REPLY TO LORD ESHER.

STATEMENT BY MR. ASQUITH

London, March 6.

Has the Kaiser interfered with regard to British naval policy? Has he attempted to bring pressure to bear on Lord Tweedmouth, First Lord of the Admiralty, to modify the Naval Estimates?

The publication of the letter in "The Times," which was reproduced in yesterday's Boulevard Edition, announcing that the Kaiser had recently addressed a letter to Lord Tweedmouth on the subject of British and German naval policies, and the comments in all the afternoon newspapers, elicited the widest notice. After a special meeting of the Cabinet, held on an emergency summons to consider the whole question Mr. Asquith, the Acting Prime Minister, made the following statement in the House of Commons:—

"As no formal motion for the adjournment of the House is made on Fridays, and as I have received notice of questions from the member for Brentford (Dr. Rutherford) and others, which seem to call in the interest for an immediate answer, I will, with the permission of the House, make the following statement:

"It is a fact that on the 18th of last month Lord Tweedmouth received a letter from the German Emperor. It was a purely private and personal communication, and conceived in an entirely friendly spirit. My noble friend's answer was equally private and informal. Neither the letter nor the answer was known or communicated to the Cabinet.

"I may add, in view of some suggestions which appear to be made, that before the letter arrived the Cabinet had come to its final decision with regard the Navy Estimates of the year."

This statement was supplemented by Lord Tweedmouth, who earlier in the day issued the following declaration:—

"The letter is purely private and personal, and there is no reference in it to the British Naval Estimates."

It was further intimated that Lord Tweedmouth himself would in the House of Lords next Monday make a personal statement on the subject.

In the Parliamentary Lobbies early in the afternoon, there was, of course, much excitement. Neither Mr. Balfour, Sir A. Acland-Hood, the Unionist Whip, nor Mr. Austen Chamberlain was in the House, and it was observable that other Unionist leaders were reluctant to commit themselves to any opinion in the matter.

Among the rank and file of the Liberal members, however, some alarm was visible, and some of the less prominent members expressed the belief that the Kaiser's letter would have to be published. On these members Mr. Asquith's statement had a distinctly disappointing effect.

The news caused excitement on the Stock Exchange. The effect partly were off, but Consols and other funds closed lower on the day.

The whole episode is a very curious and instructive one. It arises out of Lord Esher's now famous letter to the founders of the Imperial Maritime League, in which he declined to join their Council. After setting forth its attitude towards the naval policy of the Government, he concluded:—

"There is not a man in Germany, from the Emperor downwards, who would not welcome the fall of Sir John Fisher, and for this reason only, apart from all others, I must beg to decline your invitation to join the Council of the Maritime League."

The date of the letter was January 22, and it was published on February 6.

Now the German Emperor is known to read all important statements on naval matters, and he read this. Here was he an admirer of the British Fleet—in theory—to be written down, with his people, as exalting in the possible downfall of the well-known head of the Admiralty and his methods and policy. He seized his pen and indited a personal—a very personal—note to Lord Tweedmouth, whom he knows quite intimately from his visits to Great Britain. Indeed, the Kaiser knows most of the leading British public men, and there are several who have been honoured with private communications from him—only they have kept the contents to themselves.

Unfortunately, Lord Tweedmouth did not. It is disclosing no confidences, revealing no secrets, to say that several leading men, on both sides of the House, and several persons in high society, have known for some time of this Imperial missive, and they have, too, known its contents.

WHY THE LETTER IS PRIVATE.

Lord Tweedmouth seems apparently to have felt a glow of conscious pride in its possession, and this explains the knowledge of some of his friends. Then, too, even a Cabinet Minister may have a weakness for chuckling over the "scarifying" of his acquaintances, even the closest and most intimate. And Lord Esher was rather "scarified" in the Imperial letter. In fact, one phrase which was used in reference to him was quite unceremonious. This may explain why some other people saw the letter. It also helps to explain why the letter was, as stated, very private, and is likely to remain so.

Now, of course, the letter was indirectly, and in a general way, about naval matters, but was it meant to influence the British naval mind? Those who have read it scout the very idea with laughter. They assert that it never alluded to the British Navy Estimates at all, and declare that the sole specific reference to our naval policy was a parenthesis in which the "Kaiser declared that he could, if he liked, prove that the British Navy was five times as strong as the German."

As to Lord Tweedmouth's reply, there is silence, but, judging from the pleasure of the recipient over the honour of Imperial recognition, it must have contained several neatly turned expressions of personal satisfaction. For further light on the point we must wait till Monday.

Meanwhile, as a colleague caustically remarked yesterday, another chapter can be added to the rapidly growing volume entitled "Ministerial Indiscretion."

GERMAN PRESS VIEWS.

Berlin, March 6.

The news of the Kaiser's letter to Lord Tweedmouth caused some consternation in the Foreign Office in the Wilhelmstrasse, as well as in the Press, especially coming when His Majesty is absent at Wilhelmshaven where to-morrow he is to launch the first of the German Dreadnoughts.

Evidently the Foreign Office knows nothing of the letter and, despite the unanimous demand of the independent Press for speedy official statements, has thus far remanded silent, probably awaiting instructions from Wilhelmshaven. So far the official newspapers, like the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" and the "Berlin Post," have not mentioned the letter, though the news may not have reached them in time.

All the other newspapers point out that unless the German Government explain immediately, the incident might again serve to estrange Germany and England. The earlier afternoon editions doubted if the Kaiser had written a letter, though recalling other impulsive communications.

When, however, later in the afternoon, it was telegraphed from London that Lord Tweedmouth admitted having received the letter, some journals expressed the opinion that there could be no possible harm in the Kaiser exchange a personal opinion with an English gentleman, whom he had probably met during his recent visit to England.

KAISER'S DISCLAIMER.

Berlin, March 6 (Later).

Reuter's Agency is authorised by the German Foreign Office to make the following official statement:—

That the Emperor addressed a letter to Lord Tweedmouth some time ago is correct. The assertion of "The Times," however, that the Emperor made an attempt to interfere with British naval plans is untrue. In his letter the Emperor merely corrected certain erroneous views prevalent in England regarding the development of the German fleet. In naval matters the Emperor is no tyro, and this step he had a perfect right to take as a naval expert (as a Fachmann), as which he is also recognised in England.

Just as the Emperor would reject any foreign attempt to decide the proportions of Germany's fleet, so he would repudiate any idea of interfering in the affairs of the British Navy.

Official circles see no objection to the publication of the letter, but regard the matter as a personal one between his Majesty and Lord Tweedmouth.

It may be pointed out that the Emperor, in conversation with acquaintances and members of the Imperial entourage, has frequently spoken of what he regards as the unjust criticism of the German Navy by some English newspapers. What he especially resents is that in naval discussions in England mention is particularly made of the German Navy and not of the American, Japanese, or French fleets, and it is surmised that he may have set forth these views in his letters.

It is understood that the reception by the same section of the British Press of Admiral Von Tirpitz's speech in the Reichstag, in introducing the new Navy Bill, also made an unfavourable impression on his Majesty.

VETERANS' RELIEF FUND.

300 Old Warriors to Leave Workhouses.

Lord Roberts, in acknowledging the offers of help which have poured in from all quarters in response to his appeal to the public on behalf of destitute old soldiers, makes an important announcement respecting the arrangements which have been made for the welfare of the recipients under the fund.

"A complete scheme of administration has now been worked out (he writes) which provides for the immediate release from the workhouses of a large proportion of their veteran inmates, and the committee trust that this delivery will begin within the next ten days. Three hundred of these old warriors will thus shortly be provided for, and the policy of rescue will be steadily pursued as our funds may permit.

"In this connection I should like to announce that the object and aim of the Veterans' Relief fund, as a result of the widespread interest which has been evoked, have considerably developed. In order to free our workhouses from veteran sailors and soldiers it is necessary not only to take them out, but to keep them out, and in this way the Veterans' relief fund will from this moment recognise the claims of those who by their own exertions have kept themselves hitherto out of the workhouse as well as those whose powers have failed and for whom no other fate has in the past been possible.

"All money subscribed will be devoted to the primary object for which the fund was was started, but, in addition, help will henceforth also be afforded to the many hundreds of worthy veterans who have hitherto preserved their independence, but whose increasing age and infirmity threaten them with the indignity of the poorhouse and pauper's grave.

"The executive committee have from the first accepted the duty of providing where necessary for the honourable burial of a veteran, whether within the workhouse or outside. There can be no greater discouragement to recruiting in this country than the sight of a medalled veteran being taken to his last home with all the ignominy of a pauper's funeral.

"The organisation of the Veterans' Relief Fund promises well for the full attainment even of our extended purposes. But I cannot too strongly impress upon all those who sympathise with the aims of the fund that he gives double who gives quickly. Day by day the fund hears of the death in a workhouse of some veteran who might have been helped to end his life in decency and respectability, and it is a poor consolation to think that all we have yet had to offer has been the Union Jack spread over the body of a man who, fifty years ago, risked his life for all that the flag of England means to us to-day."

Lord Roberts, who writes from Englemere, Ascot mentions that the central fund now amounts to over £21,000., but it is hoped that this sum may be largely increased, and he appeals to the public to send subscriptions to the local banks to help "to wipe out a national neglect and a national reproach."

The Lord Mayor of London has convened a meeting of the Lord Mayors and Mayors, Lord Provosts and Provosts of the kingdom at the Mansion House on March 18, when the co-operation of all the municipalities of the country will be enlisted on behalf of the fund.

FOREIGN CABLE COMMUNICATION.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

Great Britain.	Continent of Europe.	America.	Australia.	China.	Africa.
Via Teheran Perfect.	Via Teheran Perfect.	Via Brest Perfect.	Via Penang Perfect.	Via Penang Perfect.	Via Aden Perfect.
Via Turkey Perfect	Via Turkey Perfect	Via Valentia Perfect.	Via Amoor Perfect.	Via Amoor Perfect.	Via Cadiz Teneriffe Perfect.
Via Suez Perfect.	Via Suez Perfect.	Via Direct Cable Perfect.	.....	Via Bhamo Interrupted.	Via Lisbon Vincent Perfect.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m. of the 20th March 1908.
(Difference in longitude allowed for.)

Via	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time Occupied in Transmission. Hrs.	Mts
Turkey	20	12	12 p m	2	14
Teheran	20	2	12 p m	0	35
Suez	20	2	35 p m	0	23

NOTICES.

Haiti (West Indies) notifies that all offices on Landline system are temporarily closed for International traffic (21-1-08).

Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the Indian frontier between Manyen and Tengyueh (18-3-08).

THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

Admiralty March 2.

In accordanae with the provisions of his Majesty's Order in Council of Dec. 8, 1903. Rear-Admiral G. W. Russell has been placed on the Retired List. Consequent thereon, Capt the Hon A E Bethell, CMG, aide-de-camp, has been promoted to the rank of rear-admiral in his Majesty's fleet; Capt E J W Slade, MVO, has been appointed a naval aide-de-camp to to his Majesty the King, in place of Capt the Hon A E Bethell, CMG, promoted to flag rank (March 1). In accordance with the provisions of her late Majesty's Order in Council of April 1, 1881, Fleet-Surg W Bowden, DSO, has been placed on the Retired List, at his own request, with permission to assume the rank of deputy inspector-general of hospital and fleet in his Majesty's fleet (Feb 27).

WAR OFFICE, MARCH 3.

Commands and Staff.

Col H N C Heath, from an assistant adjutant-general, to be General Staff officer, first garde, at Headquarters, vice Brevet Col. A Hamilton Gordon, C B. R. A; Col N D Findlay, C B, to be an assistant adjutant-general at Headquarters, vice Col H N C Heath (March 2). Col F A Fortescue, from halfpay, to be a General Staff officer, first grade, vice Col F T Henstock; Major E O Mathew, from half-pay to be a deputy-assistant adjutant-general, vice Brevet Col H St L Wood, D S O (Feb 22).

Cavalry of The Line.

1st (King's) Dragoon Guards.—Lieut D C Brown to be adjutant (Feb 18).

4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards—Second Lieut on probation H de G Warter to be second lieutenant. Dec 20.

6th Dragoon Guards Carabiniers—Second Lieut on probation N E Gore-Langton to be second lieutenant. Dec 20.

3rd King's Own Hussars—Second Lieut on probation T C Mackenzie to be second lieutenant. Dec 20.

9th Queen's Royal Lancer—Second Lieut on probation G F Reynolds to be second lieutenant. Dec 23.

13th Hussars—Undermentioned second lieutenants on probation to be second lieutenants—E W Moarthur, Dec 23; W C A Vanneck Jan 10.

17th (Duke of Cambridge's Own) Lancers—Second Lieut. on probation I H W S Dairymple-Clark to be second lieutenant Dec. 90.

18th Victoria Mary, Princes of Wale's Own Hussars—Capt. J. G. Dugdale, D S G resigns his commission March 4.

Royal Regiment of Artillery.

Royal horse and royal Field Art.—Major H. S. Woodcock retires on retired pay March 4; Capt. B R Kirwan is seconded for service on the staff; Supernumerary Capt S W Douglas, DSO, to be captain, vice B R Kirwan Feb. 19.

Royal Garrison Art.—Lieut H E Dunsterville is seconded for service as an assistant instructor in gunnery, Aden Jan. 8; Lieut. N E O Thackwell to be an instructor in gunnery second class, vice Capt. W K Harvey Feb. 13.

Corps of Royal Engineers.

Major E Townshend is placed on retired pay March 2.

Foot Guards.

Grenadier Guards—Capt. and Brevet Major the Hon. A V F. Russell, M V. O, is seconded for service on the staff Feb. 21.

Territorial Regiments.

The Kings Own Royal Lancaster Regt.—Lieut. A J Pott is seconded for service with the West African Regt. Feb. 15.

The Royal Fusiliers City of London Regt.—Second Lieut. R A F Chard resigns his commission (March 4).

The Prince Albert's (Somersetshire Light Inf.)—Second Lieut. G N Atkinson to be lieutenant, vice A J G Hargreaves, appointed adjutant 4th battalion (Feb. 15).

Alexandra, Princess of Wale's Own (Yorkshire Regt.)—Major E L V Agnew retires on retired pay (March 4). The undermentioned lieutenants to be captains:—E V L Wardle, D S O, in succession to Major R D'A. Fife, who holds a Staff appointment; H V Bastow, adjutant of Volunteers, under the provisions of Article 26, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1907 (Feb. 14).

The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)—Lieut. C C Bramwell, from half-pay, to be lieutenant, vice E S Girdwood promoted, and with precedence next below Lieut. J E Turner (Feb. 17).

The East Lancashire Regt.—Capt. R A Gosset is seconded for service under the Colonial Office (Feb 8).

The Duke of Cornwall's Light Inf.—Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. H G Morris, on completion of his period of service in command of a battalion, retires on retired pay; Major E S Burder to be lieutenant-colonel, vice Brevet Col H G Morris March 1.

The Prince of Wales's Volunteers South Lancashire Regt.—Lieut.-Col and Brevet Col J A Macgridge, on completion of his period of service in command of a battalion, retires on retired pay; Major and Brevet Col H P Shekleton to be lieutenant-colonel, vice Brevet Col J A Hoggride Feb 28.

The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt.—Major E F Venables retires on retired pay; Capt. R J W Flanagan to be major, vice E F. Venables March 4.

The King's Shropshire Light Inf.—Lieut E P Dorrien-Smith, D S O adjutant, to be captain, under the provisions of Article 26, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1907 Feb 15.

The Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlex Regt.—Second Lieut M J Anderson resigns his commission March 4.

The Prince of Wales's North Staffordshire Regt.—Second Lieut M M Napier to be lieutenant, vice G Strongitharm, placed temporarily on the Half-Pay List, on account of illhealth Feb 19.

The York and Lancaster Regt.—The second Christian name of Second Lieut D Walter Reynolds is as now described, and not as stated in the "Gazette of Feb. 4, 1908.

The Durham Light Inf.—Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col G C Mansel, D S O on completion of his period of service in command of a battalion, is placed on half-pay; Major C E Wilson to be lieutenant-colonel, vice Brevet Col G C Mansel, D S O (Feb. 29).

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders)—Lieut R G Mackaine to be adjutant, vice C C Herbert (Jan. 31) Lieut. R D Falconer-Stewart resigns his commission; Qrmr, and Honorary Capt. R C Williamson retires on retired pay (March 4).

The Army Service Corps.

Lieut. W Mearns resigns his commission (March 4).

Army Medical Service.

Royal Army Medical Corps—The undermentioned lieutenants to be captains:—W Byam, C Ryley, P Dwyer, M B P C T Davy, M B J F C Mackenzie, M B H T G A D Harvey, H C Winckworth, H W Russel, M D E J P Luxmoore, H C Sidgwick, M B M Sinclair, M B G R Pointon, N Low, A N Fraser. M B R H L Gordner, H St M carter, M D A T Frost, M B K A C Doig, P A Lloyd Jones, M B H O M Beadnell, C R Millar, C H Richard, J S A Maughan, L V Thurston, A W Gater. J P Lynch Jan 30. The undermentioned to be lieutenants, on probation:—J James, M B, H H Blake, M B, A C H Suhr, M B, W J Dunn, M B, J E Ellcome, B Varvill, F B Dalgliesh, A C Wells, G J Keane, M D F H Bradley, M B, E M Dickson, M B, F Worthington, C M Rigbe, A L Stevenson, M B, M Leckie, S G Walker, M B, C E L Harding, M B, A Shepherd, M B, W J Tobin, L Murphy, A T Davis, W H S Burney, A L Foster, J W Houston, M B, T S Ecce, M B, R O'Kelly, F M Hewson, C McQueen A E G Fraser, J S McCombe, M B Feb 4 Lieut S G Walker, M B, is seconded under the provisions of Article 300, Royal Warrant for pay an Promotion, 1907 Feb 4.

Army Ordnance Department.

Ten undermentioned inspectors of ordnance machinery, second class, and honorary captains, to be inspectors of ordnance machinery, first class:—J Truscott, J Grute, P G Davies, R A Marshall March 4 Dep Commy of Ordnance and Honorary Cap A Linnell to be commissary of ordnance, vice Honorary Cap W Hallick, seconded for service under the Canadin Government; Assist Commy of Ordnance and Honorary Lieut J H Pollock to be deputy commissary of ordnance, with the honorary rank of captain vice, Honorary Capt A Linell Feb 7.

Memoranda.

The undermentioned lieutenant-colonels and brevet colonels to be colonels:—W. H. Sitwell, D.S.O., half-pay; E. W. Deshwood, half-pay (Feb. 17); N. D. Findlay, C.B., from Royal Art. (March 2); Lieut.-Col. A. Mattel, Royal Malta Art., to be brevet colonel (Dec. 7). Capt. G. M. A. Ellis is placed on temporary half-pay on account of ill- health, on vocating the appointment of recruiting staff officer (second class); Capt. G. M. A. Ellis, half-pay, retires on retired pay (March 4); Qrmr. and Honorary Capt. W. Vince, the Norfolk Regt., is granted the honorary rank of major (March 1); Qrmr. and Honorary Lieut. C. Gilby, the York and Lancaster Regt., is granted the honorary rank of captain (March 2).

Reserve of Officers.

N. H. Addison, late lieutenant, the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regt.), to be lieutenant; Lieut. H. A., Duke of Bedford, K.G., is removed under the provisions of Article 635, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1937, on attaining the limit of age (March 4).

Army Medical Reserve of Officers.

Surg.-Capt. D. Smart, M.B., to be surgeon-major (Feb. 19). The undermentioned having relinquished their commissions in the Auxiliarly Forces will cease to belong to the Army Medical Reserve of Officers:—Surg.-Lieut.-Cols. W. D. Aubis, M.B., F. L. Stephenson, M.B., W. C. Cowan, Surg.-Major J. W. Moir, M.D. Surg.-Capts. A. Y. Pringle, L. L. Hanham, S. M. Sloan M.D.

Admiralty, 2nd March.

Royal Marine Artillery.

The undermentioned Second

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1908-1909.

RIGID ECONOMY AND RETRENCHMENT.

NO REDUCTION OF TAXATION.

THE GOLD STANDARD RESERVE POLICY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 20.

The Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker, presented the Financial Statement at to-day's meeting of the Viceroy's Council. In so doing he said :—

The dominating feature of the present budget is the famine which unhappily is widespread over a large part of Northern India, and some other tracts elsewhere. The course of the monsoon during the autumn of 1907 bore some resemblance to those of 1896 and 1899, but on the whole the failure of the rains was less extensive, and the resultant distress is both more restricted in area and with some local exceptions less severe in intensity than on those occasions. Nevertheless the calamity which has befallen the country is of no small magnitude. It extends, roughly speaking, to the greater part of the United Provinces, to the eastern districts of the Punjab, the northern half of the Central Provinces, some parts of Bengal and Bombay, and many of the Native States in Central India, besides isolated tracts in other Provinces. The area in which famine has been declared to exist is approximately 118,000 square miles in British India and about 15,000 square miles in the States of Central India and has a population of about 49 millions. In these tracts the outturn of the "kharif" crops over the whole of the United Provinces and the greater part of the distressed areas in other provinces is a good deal less than half of an average crop, and in the worst tracts very much less. The distress would have been much more severe but for the fall of useful rain in September and October in Bombay, and but for the winter rains which, though late, were of enormous benefit in Northern India. Even as it is, the export of wheat has been almost wholly stopped in consequence of the prevalent high prices in India, and a great part of the Burma rice crop which was fortunately abundant has been diverted to India to take the place of that which had been lost.

The general situation is thus less serious than in 1897-1898 or 1900-1901, and the financial position is also stronger than in those years. In the former year Sir J. Westland was forced to budget for a deficit of £1,643,000, of which a great part, though doubtless not the whole, was due to famine. In the latter, Mr. Clinton Dawkins, with the aid of improved exchange, was able to secure practical equilibrium, with a small surplus of £160,300. On the present occasion, although the surplus of £774,600 for which we had budgeted last March is likely to be reduced to £235,400, we nevertheless hope, if the ensuing monsoon is normal, to secure much more favourable results in 1908-1909, and I am able to estimate for a surplus of £571,500 at the close of the ensuing year, nothwithstanding the very liberal provision for suspension and remission of revenue which is referred to below. In part these results are due to the smaller extent and

SEVERITY OF THE PRESENT FAMINE.

That, however, is not the only reason. The lessons of the two famines of the past decade have not been lost on us. In the first place our machinery for combating distress has been brought by the teaching of experience to a higher pitch of efficiency than before. Secondly, it is now a primary canon with us to issue takavi advances on the most liberal scale and by the promptest possible methods the moment that the situation has clearly declared itself. Thus in the present year over 2 crores of rupees have already been distributed or sanctioned for distribution in this way, and 2 crores are being provided for issue next year, making upwards of 4 crores in all, as compared with 2·3 crores in 1898, and 2·9 crores in 1899—1901. Moreover, in every province, the arrangements for the suspension of revenue at the first sign of distress are far more highly developed than before. In the current year, nearly 222 lakhs of revenue have already been suspended, and about 135 lakhs more will, it is estimated, be suspended in 1908-1909, making 357 lakhs in the two years. Of this sum, a large proportion will necessarily be remitted, but it is too soon to frame any definite estimate of the amount. Not only have the suspensions of revenue been on a very liberal scale ; but, what is at least equally important, they were made with great promptitude when it was certain that the crops must fail.

Partly owing to these measures and partly, we may reasonably conclude, owing to the greater resisting powers of the people the numbers of those to whom it has been necessary to give direct relief have been much less than in previous famines. In the Province most severely affected—the United Provinces—the numbers at first rose very slowly ; the liberal grants of takavi encouraged cultivation and the construction of wells, and maintained the demand for agricultural labour. In January the demand slackened and there was a rapid increase in the number of applicants for relief, but even at the end of February the total number in receipt of relief from the State in British districts, which in the two previous famines at that date exceeded or approached three millions, amounted to less than a million and a quarter. Some further increase in numbers may no doubt be expected after the "rabi" is harvested, but according to the best forecasts which the local authorities can now supply the total direct

EXPENDITURE ON FAMINE RELIEF

in the two years will not be greatly in excess of 2 crores of rupees, as compared with 930 lakhs in 1899—1901 and 740 lakhs in 1896—1898.

The distress caused by high prices has undoubtedly affected all classes, and has pressed with great severity on the urban populations and on all who are dependent on small fixed incomes. But the more painful conditions which we associate with widespread famine in India—the emaciation, the aimless wandering, the disruption of social ties, and the increase of crime, are as yet so rare and exceptional as to be scarcely noticeable. The energy and determination with which the people have themselves faced the calamity have been observed on all hands, and we may reasonably hope that if the coming season is favourable the progress of the country will resume its normal course, without any such check as a famine on a similar scale would have caused in by-gone times.

The total loss of revenue and increase of expenditure attributable to the famine in the two years has been estimated at about 464 lakhs and 523 3-4 lakhs respectively. Some of the items comprised in these totals however are conjectural, and while they may be taken for what they are worth, I would not be understood to imply that but for the famine our surplus would have been larger by these sums, or even by the Imperial portion of them, which amounts to 305 1-2 and 322 1-2 lakhs respectively.

In view of the foregoing facts it will be manifest that we are in no position to undertake any measures for the remission of taxation, or to embark on any schemes of administrative improvement involving considerable expenditure. On the contrary the occasion is one for rigid economy and retrenchment wherever it can be effected. The only measures with which we have felt justified in proceeding are set forth in a later part of the present Statement.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1908-1909.

For next year, we estimate the revenue at £73,438,900, the expenditure chargeable against revenue at £72,867,400, and the surplus at £571,500. The total actual expenditure is estimated at £73,392,500 but of this amount £525,100 will be met from Provincial balances. These estimates are based on the assumption that the monsoon of the coming year will be normal in character.

Under the important head of Land Revenue, we hope for an improvement of £1,485,200, over the figures of the Revised Estimate of the current year. If these expectations are realized, we shall receive slightly more than was collected in 1906-1907, but £265,900 less than we had originally estimated for 1907-1908. This result is of course due to the necessity for making liberal provision for suspensions and remissions in the United Provinces, and other areas in which famine is now prevalent. In these, and indeed almost everywhere, the prospects of the "rabi" crops are excellent, though the area sown is perhaps 25 per cent. less than usual.

Under Opium, we estimate that our gross receipts will amount to 726·43 lakhs and our net revenue to 503·29 lakhs in 1908-1909, as compared with 783·43 and 534 lakhs respectively in the current year. The reduction in net revenue would have been greater but for the poor outturn of the crop now being gathered which will reduce the payments to be made to the cultivators. The number of chests of Bengal opium to be offered for sale has been reduced from 48,000 to 45,400 and the average price likely to be obtained has been estimated at Rs. 1,300 per chest as against Rs.1,350 the average obtained during the current year. The trade in Malwa opium has slightly revived of late, and we have assumed that 16,100 chests will pay duty, that being the full amount permissible during the calendar year, as explained below.

In last year's Financial Statement, I referred to the fact that negociations were in progress with the Government of China in regard to the restriction of the opium trade, but these had not at that time reached a stage at which any announcement was possible. Papers have recently been presented to Parliament explaining the nature of the settlement that has been arrived at. The gist of the latter in so far as it is material for the present purpose is to the following effect—viz., (1) that the Government of India have agreed to restrict

THE EXPORT OF OPIUM

from this country to 61,900 chests during the calender year 1908, and to effect further reductions of 5,100 chests in each of the two following years ; (2) that the question of making still further reductions after the year 1910 will depend on whether China has, in the interval effected a proportional reduction in its own production and consumption of opium ; (3) that the question of increasing the Chinese import duty, which at present stands at 110 taels per picul, has been postponed for the present, as the objections entertained to that course are felt to require much fuller consideration ; and (4) that China shall be permitted to post a Chinese official at Calcutta to watch the auctions and the packing, but with no power of interference,

In pursuance of this agreement we have reduced the area under poppy cultivation in the Bihar and Benares Agencies from 845,000 bighas to 800,000 bighas. The number of chests of Bengal opium to be offered for sale as been reduced to 3,900 per mensem till December next, and to 3,600 from January to March 1909, and the number of chests of Malwa opium which may be exported from Bombay has been limited to a maximum of 15,100 during the present calendar year. Further reductions will probably be effected in 1909 and 1910,

India is thus prepared to do its part in co-operating with China towards the eventual extinction of the opium habit among the Chinese. Whether further measures will hereafter be taken will depend on the degree of success which may be found to attend the efforts of the Chinese Government That those efforts are sincere we entertain no doubt, and such evidence as we possess indicates that the present movement is backed by a greater measure of official influence and public opinion than has been the case on former occasions. The difficulty of the task however is enormous, and it cannot be affirmed with confidence that a habit which has acquired a strong hold over many millions of people, and a trade which yields large profits not only to the Chinese Government but to great numbers of cultivators and middlemen, can be effectually stamped out in the brief space of ten years.

OTHER PRINCIPAL SOURCES.

Under the remaining principal heads of revenue, such as Salt, Stamps, Excise, Customs, and Assessed Taxes, we have taken credit for a normal development of revenue. The forest receipts in the current year have been disappointing especially in Burma and the Punjab but it is an expanding head and we hope that a considerable part of the set-back will be made up next year though possibly not the whole. Departmental receipts also, from the Post Office, the Telegraphs and the Civil Departments generally, are not likely to be affected by any exceptional influences, and may be expected to exhibit their normal growth. Mint receipts however are expected to be less than in the current year by £165,900. This is due to there being no probability of any considerable coinage of rupees from purchased silver during the ensuing year. We have also taken a moderate estimate of the profits from bronze and nickel coinage. Under "Miscellaneous" there is a decrease of £129,700 which is due partly to there being no provision for payment of the Tibet indemnity, the last instalment of which was paid during the present year. In view also of the present state of exchange we have made no provision for gain on that account. In the present year we expect to realize 9 lakhs from that source. In Military receipt there is a drop of £129,900 which is mainly due to the discontinuance of the system of supplying malt liquor to the army by State agency. There is a corresponding reduction on the expenditure side.

I have explained elsewhere that there has been a set-back in net Railway earnings during the current year We hope that the causes which have led to this will not continue, and at the progress of this important branch of our assets will resume its normal course. In this view we have estimated for an increase of £800,100 under this head as compared with the current year. The figure taken, viz. £13,729,500 is only slightly more than we originally estimated for 1907-1908 Under Irrigation, also, we expect to receive a substantial increase of £192,300, the greater part of which comes from the Punjab.

On the expenditure side of the account of most important feature is an increase of £995,200 in the expenditure of the Civil Departments. The principal items which go to make up this considerable total are Police (£301,100), Medical (£220,000) and Education (£183,200), besides smaller sums under Political, Scientific and Minor Departments, and General Administration. All the Provincial Governments are making vigorous efforts to expend the allotments we have made during the last three years for the reform of their police establishments, and Bombay in particular hopes to make large progress during the ensuing year. As explained below we are making further grants aggregating 12 lakhs for this purpose on the present occasion. Under Medical the bulk of the increase is explained by the special grant of 30 lakhs referred to in paragraph 65. The increased provision for education occurs partly in the two Bengals, but chiefly in the United Provinces, where extensive schemes of educational improvement are on foot. Part of the increase in the last-named province however, is nominal, and is due to the transfer of the Zilla schools from local to Provincial management with effect from next year.

FAMINE PROVISION.

Under the head of Famine Relief, we have provided for an outlay of 132·07 lakhs, of which one crore is for the United Provinces, 10 lakhs, each for Bengal and the Central Provinces, and smaller sums elsewhere. Of the total amount, 80·51 lakhs falls on Imperial revenues, and 51·56 on Provincial. Of this last amount, however, 50 lakhs belongs to the United Provinces, and as the balances of that Government have unfortunately been entirely depleted by reason of the famine, the bulk of this charge, as well as the greater part of that incurred in the same Province in the current year will eventually fall on Imperial.

I explained last year the operation of the new arrangements for apportioning the cost of famine relief between the Imperial and Local Governments. It is a matter of much regret that the occasion for putting them in force should have come round so soon, but the relief actually afforded to provincial revenues has been substantial. Excluding the United Provinces, the circumstances of which are special, we find that in the five other provinces affected, viz., the Central Provinces, Bengal, Punjab, Madras and Bombay, charges aggregating 9·46 lakhs have been transferred to Imperial during the current year, and a further sum of 28·94 lakhs will be similarly transferred in 1908-1909. But for the introduction of the revised system the whole of those of charges would have devolved upon the revenues of the provinces concerned.

The reduction of £224,700 under Civil Public Works occurs chiefly in Bengal, Burma, and the Punjab, where the diminution of the provincial balances has necessitated some slackening of the rate of expenditure incurred of late years. The Military charges are dealt with more fully in another part of the present statement. Although they are estimated at £233,900 more than in the present year, they are less than those of 1906-1907 by £831,700, and are also less than the budget provision of 1907-1908 by £524,700, This result is partly due to the restriction of the grant for "special" expenditure on the improvement of the Army to 2½ crores, no regrant of lapses being made. The reduction would have been greater but for a large increase of £130,000 in the cost of food supplies as compared with the present year, due to the prevalence of high prices.

As already explained, the financial position does not permit of our undertaking any new measures involving large expenditure. We have however provided a sum of 12 lakhs per annum for the further prosecution of police reform in accordance with our established policy, and have distributed it as follows :—

				R
Bombay	...	...	...	4,25,000
Bengal	...	...	...	4,00,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	...	1,25,000
Central Provinces	...	...	...	1,50,000
Minor Provinces	...	...		1,00,000

Burma, Madras and the United Provinces do not share in the present allotment because those three provinces have already received their full grants in connection with the revision of their Provincial Settlements. In the case of the two last named, this is contingent on the approval of the Secretary of State. The Punjab also has practically received its full assignment.

We have also been able to make some provision for another object to which we attach great importance. I refer to the improvement of the public health. Hitherto comparitively little has been done in this direction, and it is sometimes made a reproach against us that no organized effort has been made to improve the sanitary conditions in which the people live. The continued

PREVALENCE OF PLAGUE

and the special measures which have been concerted to combat it, have brought this question into exceptional prominence. In those measures there is reason to hope for the co-operation of the people in a degree which has not previously been attained ; and notwithstanding the present pressing need for economy, we believe that it will be politic to give a tangible proof of our sympathy in the form of some special assistance from Imperial funds. Apart from expenditure of this nature, which will not, we trust, be of a permanent character, there is room for almost unlimited outlay of the most beneficial description in reforming the sanitary arrangements of the larger towns. The necessity for financial assistance to enable these to achieve sanitary standard less primitive than at present prevails has been pressed upon us by more than one of the Local Governments. We have therefore decided to allot a sum of 30 lakhs per annum, among the different provinces, for expenditure on sanitary improvements with special reference to the prevention of plague. Each Local Government will be at liberty to expend the money at its discretion, and to attack the problem in whatever way it prefers. The sums assigned to each of the provinces are shown below ; and it is a matter of regret to us that it has not been possible to make them larger.

				R
Madras	...	...	...	3,50,000
Bombay	...	...	...	4,50,000
Bengal	...	...	...	4,50,000
United Provinces	...	...	...	5,00,000
Punjab	...	...	...	4,00,000
Burma	...	...	...	3,00,000
Central Provinces	...	...	...	2,00,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...		...	3,00,000
North-West Frontier Province	...		...	50,000

The only other point to which I need allude is the framing of new Provincial settlements with Madras and the United Provinces. These were worked out during the past year, and were designed to give to the Local Governments concerned the same share of the divided heads of Revenue, viz., Land Revenue, Stamps, Excise, Assessed Taxes and Forests, as is enjoyed by other provinces. In the case of the United Provinces, it was also desired to effect some improvement in the general financial position of the Local Government. The new arrangements have been incorporated in the budget for next year, but they are still under the consideration of the Secretary of State, and must be regarded as only provisional pending receipt of his orders. It is unfortunate that the occurrence of famine has seriously affected the finances of the United Provinces. Their balances have not merely exhausted but overdrawn, and, in addition to the Imperial grant of 32·72 lakhs made in the current year, it has been necessary to make a further grant of 14·82 lakhs in the ensuing year in order to secure bare equilibrium. The consideration of the further measures that will be necessary to place the Provincial finances on a better footing must be deferred until after the character of the next monsoon shall have declared itself.

WAYS AND MEANS.

On revenue account closes with a surplus of £571,500 which is carried forward to the second part of the statement dealing with Capital and Debt transactions, including Deposits, Remittances and Advances. Our total estimate of Capital Expenditure not chargeable to Revenue on Railways and Irrigation Major Works is £11,000,000 of which £1,000,000 is for Irrigation, £3,555,100 for State Railways, and £1,444,900 for expenditure by Railway Companies In addition to the above, we have to find £950,400, for the discharge of permanent debt. We have also to make a net payment of £207,200 on account of loans to local bodies, advances to cultivators, etc. Our aggregate capital requirements thus amount to £12,157,600.

To meet this outlay we have (1) the revenue surplus of £571,500, (2) a portion, namely, £746,000 of the 3½ per cent. sterling loan of £5,000,000 raised in England in January 1908 which will be received in the ensuing year, (3) the net receipts of the Post Office and other Savings Banks which are estimated at £453,500, (4) a net receipt of £523,800 under Deposits and Remittances, (5) a sum of £666,700 to be taken from the profits on rupee coinage and (6) a sum of £4,900,000 to be raised by Railway Companies. The various resources amount to £7,861,500 leaving £4,296,100 still to be provided. In order to meet this, we propose to borrow 3 crores of rupees or £2,000,000 in India and to raise £500,000 by temporary India Bills in England, the remaining £1,796,100 being met by a reduction in the cash balances. Our cash balances are expected to stand on the 31st March 1909 at £12,200,000 in India, and at £3,750,000 in England.

The announcement regarding the amounts to be borrowed in England and India is made subject to the usual reservation, and the Government of India retain full discretion to vary the programme, as now declared, to any extent that may be considered desirable.

The present intention of the Secretary of State is to draw bills on India to the amount of £18,500,000 but this also is subject to a similar reservation. This estimate of Council drawings is for the amount necessary to provide for the Secretary of State's requirements : but additional bills will, as usual, be sold, if needed to meet the demands of trade.

EXCHANGE.

The average rate obtained for Council drafts during the first 11 months of the year was 1s. 4·03d. which may be compared with the rates prevailing during the past ten years, as shown below :—

	s.	d.
1897-1898	1	3·402
1898-1899	1	3·978
1899-1900	1	4·067
1900-1901	1	3·973
1901-1902	1	3·987
1902-1903	1	4·002
1903-1904	1	4·049
1904-1905	1	4·045
1905-1906	1	4·042
1906-1907	1	4·083

For some years past, there has been no occasion to say much in the Financial Statement regarding the course of exchange. During the current year, however, the steady level which had been maintained for a considerable period was temporarily affected, and though the depression was of moderate extent and brief duration, it attracted a good deal of public attention, while the action taken by Government in regard to it formed the subject of criticism in various quarters. It may be of interest therefore to note briefly what actually occurred, and to endeavour to trace its causes.

Up to August 1907, exchange followed what has for some years been its normal course, and was steady at a point or two over 1s. 4d., although the drawings of the Secretary of State had been exceptionally heavy during the first four months of the year. In August, however, the demand for money showed decided signs of slackening. The sales of council bills in July had exceeded two crores of rupees, and in the ordinary course this would have been followed by a heavy run on our rupee reserve. No such run took place, and the issues from the currency reserve during August amounted to only 68½ lakhs, as compared with 2½ crores in August of 1906, and more than 1½ crores in that month in each of the two preceding years. The explanation lay in the prospects of the jute trade. That crop was expected to be a good one, but prices had fallen greatly, buyers were holding off, and there was no outflow of money into the jute districts as in the previous year. The uncertainty as to the future reacted on the Secretary of State's drawings and in the first week of the month he sold only 40 lakhs of bills ; there were practically no telegraphic transfers sold during the month, and exchange fell to a steady 1s. 4d.

In September, a fresh and more serious cause for anxiety arose. It then became apparent that the autumn rains were in marked defect over a large part of India, and particularly in the wheat-growing provinces. Exchange weakened a point, and sales of Councils amounted to only 131 lakhs during the month, as compared with 340 and 397 lakhs in the corresponding month of the two previous years. In October there was a slight improvement in jute prospects, but exchange failed to rally, and by the end of the month it was clear that the export trade in wheat would be insignificant, and that business generally would suffer the usual consequences of a severe scarcity in Northern India.

Before the beginning of November therefore the conditions for a weak and stagnant exchange were fully established. The jute trade was inactive : the wheat trade was doomed ; cotton was somewhat uncertain ; and much of the Burma rice might have to be diverted to India instead of going abroad. To these conditions there was suddenly superadded an external complication as serious as it was unforeseen. On the 20th of October the Mercantile National Bank of the United States of America was announced to be in difficulties ; several big Trust companies fell in its wake ; and by the beginning of November a great financial crisis had developed in the United States. The origin and course of that crisis are not material to the present purpose. The point which concerns us is that America fell upon the world's store of gold with all the insistence of panic. Credit was temporarily paralyzed, and the gold currency rose for a time to a premium of 4 per cent. Before the panic abated, over 23 millions sterling in gold had been poured into the country ; and the results was to denude the available gold reserves of Europe in the most serious manner. The drain was most directly felt in London, and the Bank of England in self-defence raised its rate on the 4th November to 6 per cent. which was again raised to 7 per cent three days later. The gravity of the crisis is shown by the fact that London had not experienced a 7 per cent bank rate since 1873.

The effect on India was instantaneous, for the tightness of money combined with the slackening of our export trade destroyed for the time the market for the Secretary of State's bills. On the 6th November tenders dropped to 1-3 29/32 and he was able to sell only 30 lakhs. Thereafter for five weeks he practically withdrew from the market altogether ; but the scarcity of gold and the absence of exports continued, and exchange ceased to be stagnant and moved steadily downwards. On the 18th November it fell to 1-3 13/16, on the 18th to 1-3½, and on the 25th to 1-3 11/16. This was the lowest point reached during the crisis.

The significance of these quotations lies of coure in the fact that they are below the point—in present conditions 1-3 ¾ for Telegraphic transfers—at which it becomes profitable to export sovereigns from India, provided always that the latter can be obtained at par. This fact, coupled with the continued demand for gold for America, directed attention to India as a possible source of supply, and in the first half of November Government was approached from more than one quarter, to ascertain whether we should be willing to issue gold freely, *i.e.*, without limit of amount, in exchange for rupees at Rs. 15 to the £. It was of course understood that the sovereigns were wanted for export.

THE RECENT GOLD FAMINE.

The matter was carefully considered. The theoretical arguments in favour of a liberal issue of gold as an antidote to a fall in exchange were freely admitted. But it was felt very strongly that the depression was not due exclusively to the contraction of exports. The demand for gold was made in part in the interest of our own trade ; but it was also due in great measure to the American crisis and the latter factor was clearly one that had to be seriously reckoned with. Our own interests could most effectively be protected by the stoppage of Council drawings, and this course the Secretary of State had already adopted. Moreover, our whole supply of gold was only about 3½ millions, of which only some 2 millions was at Bombay and Calcutta, and this was already being drawn off at the rate of about £400,000 a month for internal consumption. Had we complied with the demand for issues without limit, the whole available supply might have been drawn off in a few weeks, and we should then have been forced to discontinue them, with the possible result of precipitating a panic.

For these reasons, we decided to stand by our legal rights. We are not bound to give sovereigns in exchange for rupees, except at our own convenience, and we do so primarily only to foster the internal use of gold. The Currency Offices were accordingly instructed not to issue gold in large quantities than £10,000 to any individual on any one day.

Meanwhile, as stated above, the Secretary of State had virtually stopped the sale of Bills. To enable him to persevere in this course until favourable tenders should be received, he on the 25th November released one million sterling of the gold in the currency chest in London, (which represents exports ready made), and further sums of one million and half a million were released on the 6th and 18th December, respectively. Lastly, a few days later, it was arranged with the approval of the Secretary of State that, if exchange (which in the meantime had recovered) should again fall below gold export point, Telegraphic Transfers on London should be offered for sale in India at a fixed rate. No public announcement to that effect was thought necessary, but the decision was communicated to the Banks at the Presidency towns. To avoid any possible misapprehension it should be clearly explained that this contingent offer was not unlimited. On the contrary, the amount of transfers was to be limited to a defined though reasonably substantial figure, and Government reserved to itself the fullest discretion to withdraw the offer at any moment without notice. The arrangement remained in force till the last days of February, but no occasion arose for putting it into operation. At the end of that month it was modified by the Secretary of State in communication with the Exchange Banks at home, to the extent that bills on London would be offered for sale, instead of transfers, the rate being suitably modified. This arrangement still holds good, but here also no occasion has arisen for putting it into force.

EFFECT OF THE MEASURES.

The effect of these measures was immediate. On the 25th November when exchange was at 1-3 11/16 —the lowest point reached—the Secretary of State set free £1,000,000 of his currency gold. On the 27th, exchange rose to 1-3 25/32, on the 29th to 1-3 13/16, and on the 30th to 1-3 27/32. Gold export point was passed, and during December the rate remained fairly steady at an average of 1-3 29/32. About the middle of the month the Secretary of State began to sell Bills again, and sales gradually advanced to a weekly allotment of 80 lakhs. During February the amounts again fell off, but the rate obtained never fell below 1-3 29/32;

Government has been criticized for its refusal to promise to issue gold for export without limit, and it has been alleged that such an undertaking would at once have restored public confidence, while in all probability only a small quantity of gold would actually have been taken. I cannot admit that this criticism is well founded. It has been shown above how very small the available stock of gold in India was. Had we given the promise required and had it been put to the proof, it could not possibly have been fulfilled. That fact alone is a conclusive reason for not giving it. We could, no doubt, have undertaken to issue up to a certain limited amount. That, however, was not what was demanded of us ; no assurance was forthcoming, and probably none was possible, that the actual withdrawals would in fact be limited ; and it is essential to remember that the gold was wanted not merely to redress a temporary defect in the balance of Indian trade, but also directly or indirectly to supply the demand from America, which had already absorbed 23 millions sterling, and was only restrained from further inroads on the London market by reason of an abnormally high bank rate.

One further comment has been made to which I may very briefly allude. It has been suggested that the incidents of November last have cast doubts on the sufficiency of the Gold Standard Reserve, and on the action of Government in authorising the employment of a portion of the future profits on coinage for capital expenditure on Railways. I do not propose to discuss this policy, the views of Government in regard to which were made public last August. What I desire to point out is that the course of events last winter is not really relevant to the adequacy or otherwise of the Gold Standard Reserve. Between us and the Gold Standard Reserve there stands the gold in the Currency reserve, and this constitutes our first line of defence. The utilization of that gold in India and England simultaneously, and in a moderate degree proved sufficient to arrest the fall in exchange, and it never became necessary to bring the Gold Standard Reserve into play at all. We are of course aware that some sections of the commercial public unfortunately hold views differing from our own as to the adequacy of the Gold Standard Reserve ; but whether we are right or they, I do not think that any inference of value can be drawn on the question from the course of exchange last November. If hereafter at any time circumstances should arise which make the employment of the Gold Standard Reserve justifiable and expedient the public may rest assured that there will be no hesitation about using it. But the time and the method of doing so must be determined at the discretion of the Secretary of State by whom the Reserve is controlled.

SUMMARY.

The principal features in this statement are the following :—

I.—The Accounts of 1906-1907 (including Local figures) closed with a surplus of £1,589,340, being £263,240 more than the surplus expected in the Revised Estimates of that year.

II.—1907-1908 :—

(1) The Revised Estimates show a total Revenue of £70,989,200, a total Expenditure charged to Revenue of £70,753,800, and an Imperial surplus of £235,400. This surplus is less than that of the Budget Estimate by £539,300.

(2) The transactions of local funds (except a few funds which are being absorbed in Imperial or Provincial revenues) will be excluded from the general accounts from the 1st April, 1908. The Budget and the Revised Estimates for the current year have been re-arranged so as to give retrospective effect to this change. The absorption of certain minor funds has resulted in a small reduction (£100) in the surplus of £774,700 shown in the original Budget Estimate.

(3) The failure of the monsoon has necessitated Famine Relief expenditure (£516,000), and a heavy reduction (£1,701,100) in the estimates of Land Revenue. In the United Provinces alone, the decrease is £944,300.

Railway net Receipts also show a heavy decline (£235,400). The increase of Working Expenses has exceeded the growth of Earnings by reason of heavy expenditure on renewals and repairs. The Madras Railway—the last of the old guaranteed lines—was purchased by the Government with effect from the 1st January 1908.

Forests and Exchange have contributed £148,100 and £73,300, respectively, towards the total diminution of Revenue; and there have been smaller decreases under Tributes and Military receipts.

The Customs Revenue £4,964,000 has been unprecedentedly high, being better than the Budget anticipation by £368,500. The increase over the receipts of 1906-1907 has been greatest under cotton manufactures (£142,400), spirits and liqueurs (£24,500) and manufactured articles (£21,000).

The improvement in Opium Revenue is £371,800, of which £302,000 is due to Bengal opium having been sold at an average of Rs. 1,350 per chest, as against Rs. 1,220 taken in the Budjet. The exports of Malwa opium have exceeded expectation.

The great demand for bronze coin and the issue of the new one-anna nickel have yielded a profit of £226,700, as against £96,700 budgeted for. The renewal of dollar coinage and the heavy coinage of rupees in the earlier part of the year have also contributed towards the total increase of £162,700 in Mint receipts.

The Salt Revenue shows marked progress; the increase of £46,900 over the Budget would have been larger but for exceptionally heavy clearences between the 20th and 31st March 1907, consequent on the reduction of duty. The other heads under which the Budget has been substantially exceeded are Stamps, Minor Irrigation Works and Assessed Taxes with increases of £67,700, £64,900 and £49,200, respectively.

(4) A new principle has been adopted for distributing the gross Interest charges between the Railway, Irrigation and Ordinary Debt, which reduces largely the disproportionate burden of interest hitherto borne by the accounts of railways and prodstive irrigation works. The increase in the gross interest charges (£149,100) is due mainly to the discount and higher rate (2¾ per cent.) of the sterling loans of the year.

Of the total charge of £516,000 for Famine Relief, £220,700 has been met from the Budget provision for Rednotion or Avoidance of Debt.

There is a large excess (£115,600) over the Budget in Civil Works expenditure, which is partly due to the development of the public works programme to provide employment for labour in famine tracts. Military expenditure (including Marine) is £758,600 less than the Budget, owing mainly to smaller payments to the War Office, and to a slower rate of progress with the special or "schedule" measures of reorganization. The Revised Estimate under Army includes £50,000 for the Bazar Valley Field Force.

The Opium expenditure is short of the Budget provision by £141,800, as a result of the contraction in the poppy area. Political shows a saving of £119,700 attributable to smaller drawings of His Majesty the Amir's subsidy.

(5) The balances of the United Provinces having been largely depleted as a consequence of famine, a special assignment of £218,100 has been entered in the Revised Estimate to raise the closing Provincial balance to its prescribed minimum. Other special assignments are £91,700 to Bombay and £7,500 to the Central Provinces to make up the minimum amount of Land Revenue guaranted under the Provincial Settlements, £38,300 to the Punjab in respect of a similar guarantee for Irrigation revenue, and £33,300 to Madras for tank restoration works, and £66,700 to Burma, as the first instalment of the Imperial contribution towards the cost of the Rangoon river training scheme.

(6) A 3½ per cent. loan of two and a half crores of rupees was raised in India and two issues of 3½ per cent. India stock were made in England. The first in accordance with the Budget programme was for £3,500,000 ; but in January last a further loan of £5,000,000 was effected, partly in anticipation of the requirements of next year. Of the latter £746,000 will be received after 31st March, 1908. In addition, India Bills for £1,000,000 were issued, in lieu of capital estimated to be raised by various Railway Companies. The sterling loans enabled £634,700 to be applied towards the discharge of debentures of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway and the Madras Railway.

(7) Owing to stringency in the London money market, only £2,248,000 of fresh capital was raised by Railway Companies as against £3,840,400 entered in the Budget Estimate.

(8) In consequence of the drop in exchange during the latter half of the year, the drawings of Council Bills in 1907-1908 are expected to amount to only £15,814,000 as compared with £18,100,000 entered in the Budget ; the former figure is exclusive of £30,000 drawn for remittance to the Gold Standard Reserve. £3,325,000 have been drawn from the Currency Reserve Gold, in part payment of the silver bought by Government for coinage purposes.

(9) The Gold Standard Reserve on 31st March, 1908, stands at £18,355,300.

THE FUTURE.

III.—1908-1909 :—

(1) The Budget Estimate of 1908-1909 shows a total Revenue of £73,438,900, a total expenditure charged to Revenue of £72,867,400, and an Imperial surplus of £571,500.

(2) Provision has been made for special grants to Local Governments of £ 2,00,000 and £ 80,000 in aid of Sanitation and additional Police reforms, respectively. The annual grant for special Military expenditure has been taken at £ 1,666,700 only as against £ 1,983,300 in the Budget of 1907-1908.

(3) Compared with the Revised Estimate of the current year Land Revenue (excluding the portion due to Irrigation) shows an increase of £1,435,200 of which £767,800 is in the United Provinces, £417,900 in Bombay and £193,000 in Burma. The famine necessitated exceptionally heavy remissions and suspensions this year. The estimates of 1908-1909 are based on the assumption that the next monsoon will be normal.

The purchase this year of the Madras Railway increases the gross receipts and working expenses of State Railways next year by £845,300 and £666,700, respectively. A total increase of £1,031,800 in the net receipts of State Railways is expected.

In view of the prevailing scarcity the growth of Excise Receipts is taken at £194,600 only. An increase of £126,400 is expected under Stamps. The resumption of a year of normal crops in the Punjab chiefly has caused an increase of £192,300 under irrigation.

The Salt Budget anticipates an increase in consumption of approximately 2,900,000 maunds But the increase of revenue is taken at £65,300 only, owing to the operation of the credit system in Madras.

Under Customs the increase is small (£36,300 only), as the growth of the import duties has been extraordinary large this year, and no appreciable increase of the export duty on rice can be expected while famine prevails.

Opium revenue shows a decrease of £380,000. In view of the restriction of the trade with China, the number of chests of Bengal and Malwa opium to be exported have been taken at 45,900 and 15,100, respectively. The average sale price of Bengal opium has been taken at Rs. 1,300 per chest as against Rs. 1,350 obtained in the current year.

Other important decreases of Revenue are under Mint (£165,900), due to smaller coinage of new rupees and bronze; and under Military Services (£ 129,900), the result largely of the discontinuance of the supply by the State of malt liquor to the troops.

(4) The direct expenditure on Famine Relief is estimated £880,500, of which £666,700 is in the United Provinces.

Police and Medical expenditure show increases of £301,100 and £280,000, of which £80,000 and £200,000 represent provision for expenditure against the special imperial grants for additional police reforms and sanitation, respectively [vide paragraph III (2)].

Under Military Services, there is an increase of £233,900 in spite of a decrease of £40,200 under Marine. These variations are explained in Appendix II.

The only important decreases of expenditure are under Civil Works (£224,700), Opium (£175,600), and Miscellaneous (£177,900). In the first case, retrenchment is largely due to the depletion of the Provincial balances in some of the provinces. Under Opium, the decrease is due partly to the poor outturn last winter's crop, and partly to the further restriction of the poppy-growing area.

The purchase of the Madras Railway causes a decrease of £800,100 under Guaranteed Companies, and an increase of £398,800 under Annuities in purchase of Railways. The total annuity in purchase of the undertaking is £553,397, but the Budget provides for the exchange of a part of this for new stock of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, and for the payment next year of three-quarters of the reduced annuity plus a half-year's annuity to holders who exchange.

(5) The Budget includes special Land Revenue assignments of £43,100 and £98,800 to the United Provinces to make up the minimum amount of Land Revenue guaranteed under the Provincial Settlement and to avoid a minus Provincial balance at the close of 1908-1909, respectively.

(6) Subject to the approval of his Majesty's Secretary of State, the Provincial Settlements of Madras and the United Provinces have been revised so as to place at the disposal of the Local Governments a larger share of the heads of revenue which are ordinarily divided between Imperial and Provincial. Particulars of the changes will be found in Section VI.

(7) Subject to the usual reservation, a loan of 3 crores of rupees in India is announced. This is intended for Capital expenditure on Railways and Productive Irrigation Works. Of the sterling loan of £5,000,000 announced in January last, £746,000 will be realised after the 31st March 1908. Provision has also been made for renewing twice in 1908-1909 the India Bills of £1,900,000 which were issued with a six months' currency in October 1907 ; for a fresh temporary loan of £500,000 in England ; and for the discharge of Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway debentures, of which £865,800 mature next year.

(8) Subject to the usual reservations, provision is also made for the raising of Capital through Railway Companies as follows : namely, for outlay on Companies' Railways £1,013,900, and for expenditure on purchased Railways £3,900,000.

(9) Drawings of Council Bills are entered at £18,500,000 ; and provision has been made for the withdrawal of £1,500,000 from the Currency Chest in London, against an equivalent transfer from Treasury to Currency in India.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

The following table shows the Capital Expenditure on Railways and Irrigation Works :—

RAILWAYS.	Accounts, 1906-1907. Rs.	Revised Estimate, 1907-1908. Rs.	Budget Estimate, 1908-1909. Rs.
Included in the Government Capital programme	14,47,41,592	15,

THE EXPANSION OF BOMBAY.

Opinions of Municipal Officials.

MR. HALL'S OPINION.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Municipal Commissioner, from the Executive Engineer, dated the 8th January, 1908:—

"In returning yours of 14th December, 1907, I have the honour to remark, following the grouping given in yours. 16, that (1) the laying out of "residential areas in the northern portion of the Island" will not meet the conditions required by the wealthier portions of the community. They are upon a relatively low level and far from the sea, shut in by the Worlee range of hills; receive the smells from the sewer outfall when the wind is from the West and South-west the smoke from the mills when the wind is South or South-east or East, and the smells from the Dharavi Tanneries when from the North.

The district may be improved and rendered healthy, but will remain subject to the foregoing conditions which interfere with the amenities of the situation.

Reclamation in Back Bay would provide all the area required, but the material for filling it must be brought from Salsette or the Eastern or the Northern side of the Harbour. In my opinion the only Reclamation that the should be undertaken is the continuation of the works originally contemplated near the Swimming Baths for use as a Public Park. The reclamation of Back Bay would hardly do as a substitute for the expansion of the population northwards, and would cost a prohibitive outlay incommensurate with any profit to be derived by the erection of residences for the middle and labouring classes. The buildings upon the reclamation would be seriously injure a considerable portion of the existing city.

The utilization of Trombay appears to afford the best solution of the difficulty of providing for those who can afford the cost of large houses and grounds and the daily cost of travelling, and will also help to relieve those less favourably situated from the competition of wealthier neighbours. To utilize Trombay, however, it should be brought within the city limits for all purposes of City Government and taxation. An Electric Railway or Tramway should be extended to it as a first step, the whole of the unbuilt upon area to be acquired by the Municipality or City Improvement Trust at its present value without payment for its potential value which will only arise after the city has expended considerable sums on its roads, water supply and drainage and therefore extra value should not be allowed to present owners who have done nothing towards its development.

When laid out, some of the lots should be offered in places at low rentals on long terms, followed by intermediate plots at higher rentals for shorter periods and leaving some plots for letting on rack-rents. The exact policy may be decided upon after a close study of the English towns built up under such a system. Amongst them may be mentioned Eastbourne, Cardiff and Huddersfield, each of which is typical of entirely different conditions being Health Resort, Seaport and Manufacturing town respectively. The areas of suitable land in the northern portion of the island could then be made available, simultaneously with the Trombay development, for the housing of the large numbers of better class clerks, etc., who can afford the daily train or railway journey of 6 or 7 miles. Each of this will relieve the class below it from the extreme pressure for sites.

THE FIRST NEED.

(2) The most pressing need of the city is embodied in this question. There is no efficient north or south route through the city. Frere Road is largely an adjunct to the Harbour and cannot be regarded as of much use for any purpose except passage to and from the Docks. Abdul Rehman Street and Kalbadevi are the only direct thoroughfares, and of these Kalbadevi is somewhat the longer and is obstructed by the enormous cross traffic near Bhuleshwar as well as in other places, and Abdul Rehman Street is so narrow that only one line of tramway can be laid through it. The alternatives are to widen Abdul Rahman Street or to cut a new road through the block to the eastward thereby forming a continuation of Paltan Road and joining with Parel Road by means of or near to Sandhurst Road. The present time seems favourable for doing this latter before Sandhurst Road building lots are settled.

(3 and 4) Can best be considered together. As soon as the Cotton Green at Colaba is abolished, a large proportion of the traffic to that terminus will cease and be replaced by that of a residential population who will live upon the area not needed for railway purposes.

That Victoria Terminus can be adapted for all the main traffic coming into and going out of Bombay, no one who has experience of the large passenger stations in different cities of the world can doubt, and the tendency of all railways appears to be to adopt central stations wherever possible. Assuming all "long distance traffic" of both lines is brought to Victoria Terminus from Dadar junction, the local traffic wishing to go to Grant Road and Colaba might be conveyed to Grant Road station by local trains, the railway with all its appurtenances removed, the surface made of the same level as Queen's Road and an Electric Tramway laid from the inside of Grant Road station to Colaba. The effect of this will be to widen Queen's Road and leave it open to the sea on the west side. On the east side a portion of the road should be planted closely, say 12 or 15 feet wide, to hide out the walls of the various cemeteries and burning grounds. From Church Gate Street to Wodehouse Bridge the existing road should be moved to the side of the railway site, thus adding the waste land alongside the railway to the Oval. The Electric Tramway would be much used for an hour at about 10 a.m. and 5 6 p.m. but at other times it would not interfere with carriage traffic along the road. This tramway need not be in communication with the ordinary tramway system of the city but may work as a shuttle between Grant Road and Colaba or Church Gate Street.

Such an arrangement would do away with the need for stations, set free the land now so used and permit the removal of those in Queen's Road which are blots on the view, while it would remove the need for a new road along the sea which all best will not be available for more than eight months of the year and, including the cost of the bridge, would involve the Corporation in a large sum per annum for maintenance.

5 (i) The areas available for middle class residential quarters will then be (a) the Chowpatti Estate, (b) the areas at Colaba now to be set free by the disuse of Railway land at Colaba and the Cotton Green, (c) the lands near Dadar and Vincent Road (d) Sion and Matunga Schemes of the City Improvement Trust.

(ii) For labouring classes who must be located as near as possible to the mills, docks and other places of employment, the improved areas in the possession of the City Improvement Trust at Agripada, Parel and Soparibag, especially along the Eastern side, the areas near Haines Road and Jacob's Circles, now too low, after they have been filled to or above the level of the roads will be found suitable.

(6) No fares on workmen's trains or tramways can be fixed sufficiently low to permit coolie labour to use them. Even if it were as low as 1-2 anna per journey of two miles, i.e., 3 pies per mile, it will amount to from 12 to 15 per cent. of their gross income; rent of one room without any allowance for the land upon which it is built will amount to 1½ annas per diem, showing that the price to be paid for the site must, having regard to the present rate of labourers and mill-hands wages, be extremely low an this is the real crux of the question.

SPECULATORS WAITING.

Considerable areas of land in and near Bombay are held by speculators for rises in prices, who do not contribute their fair share of taxation in any form. Money invested in land is left by the owners to accumulate as in a Bank but with this difference that Income Tax has to be paid by the owner of money on deposit, whereas the owner of land pays only on the rent and nothing on the increment in value which is being added at a very rapid rate, in many cases as much as 50 per cent. per annum.

One efficient remedy would be to adopt the provisions of the Calcutta Act which provides that when land has been assessed for taxation and is afterwards required for any public purpose the valuation to be paid shall be 25 times the annual value of the assessment.

Another cause for the increasing value of land is the large area permanently removed from utility by its use for burial purposes. Even now the need for an extension at Sewree is severely felt. As a remedy for this, a large area should be acquired in Salsette and devoted to burial purposes for the various communities and one or two trains go out daily for mourners, etc., the Municipality providing them free as a set off to the saving in cost of land.

The possible acquisition of considerable areas of land for expansion beyond the present limits of the Island indicates the need for an extension of the city boundaries and this should include those portions of Salsette which are now or will in the immediate future become suburbs of the city, such as Bandora, Pali Hill, Andheri, Santa Cruz, Kurla, Ghatkupar, Trombay, etc., all of which must look to Bombay for their water supply, and whose drainage arrangements may become a menace to the health of the city.

Another improvement which would add to the amenities of the city as a place of residence and increase considerably the number of available sites suitable for better class residences would be the construction of a Marine Drive such as those to be found at most sea side cities and towns. Such a drive of ample width commencing at Chowpati would be made along the north side of the Back Bay to the narrow neck upon which the Garden of Government House stands, and under which it would be carried by a tunnel or tunnels, thence to Mahaluxmi, reclaiming several large areas adjoining Nepean Sea Road and Warden Road along the reef of rock to Mama Musjid and past Love Grove reclaiming the large area at Hornby Vellard.

From Love Grove to Mahim Sands, a considerable area of land, in addition to reclamation, will become available which is now impracticable owing to the impossibility of access. Such a road would afford a driving approach to the northern portion of the island as well as open out a large area suitable for good class residences.

THE HAINES ROAD AREA.

The acquisition of the large areas of low land in the neighbourhood of Haines Road will necessitate filling and the material for this again can only be obtained, in sufficient quantity by laying down a special line of rails or ropeway from the hills of Salsette to level up the sites so as to render them safe from flooding and its accompanying malaria. If this is done upon a proper scale and the land purchased at its present market value, sites will be available for the factory workers' homes in the immediate vicinity of their employment.

The essential step, however, is to so legislate as to prevent any speculator, however wealthy, from creating a corner in the limited quantity of land available and seriously to penalize any such attempt. At present the effect of the law and its administration is to favour the landholder by permitting him to pay taxes upon a lower scale for open than for building land and then permit or even assist him to obtain a relatively high value for it when required for building. A recent example will suffice to show the effect to which I refer. In 1898 land was bought at Kurla at Rs 60 per acre: the owner has done "nothing towards improving it": much expenditure will be necessary to fill it before any building can be done, and the Collector now proposes to award to the speculator Rs. 600 per acre to permit this Corporation to improve the site, and upon this profit of Rs. 540 on an outlay of Rs. 60 the owner has not and will not pay practically any income tax.

Taken in order of application the first step is to amend the Municipal Act, so as to extend the City boundaries and a clause similar to that in the Calcutta Act, made applicable to all questions of land acquisition within the City limits, the values being based upon the Municipal Assessment.

The effect of these proposals will be to provide space for the wealthier and upper middle classes in the City proper; to accommodate the labouring population in the vicinity of employment, and to provide cheap houses in the suburbs for the middle classes."

DR. TURNER'S VIEWS.

The following is a copy of the letter to the Commissioner from the Executive Health Officer dated the 4th February, 1908:—

"With reference to yours of 14th December, 1907 forwarding copy of letter of 9th December, from the Bombay Government, regarding the development of Bombay, I have the honour to forward herewith a report embodying my views on the proposals contained in the letter."

The letter from his Excellency the Governor of Bombay deals mainly with suggestions to provide more sites for residential areas for the well-to-do as well as the labouring classes. To provide better facilities for transit and channels of communications and for this purpose to draw up a settled policy to prevent the errors of the past being repeated. This affects the health of the city directly and indirectly by reducing overcrowding in areas, reducing rents and giving facilities for communication and transit.

But no scheme for improving any city more especially Bombay can be complete unless it deals more intimately with the conditions existing. Schemes carried out on the lines suggested by his Excellency's letter will develop the City by widening the streets, improving communications and enlarging its area and naturally increasing its prosperity and population. This will mean greater demand for water, better and more extensive drainage and more modern sanitary methods for the disposal of refuse and waste materials. Public baths, recreation grounds and amusements for the people are part and parcel of any modern Municipal administration and scope for those should not be overlooked.

Any system for the improvement of Bombay must include a consideration as to how to dispose of its sewage and refuge and the future extension of the city northwards. The whole of the sewage at present is discharged into the sea at Love Grove Pumping Station. It is proposed to increase the pumping power deepen the well and make detrious chambers and enlarge the area included in the Pumping Station at a cost of Rs. 9 to 10 lakhs, to deal with 90 millions of gallons of sewage daily in the monsoon and 55 to 60 millions daily in the dry weather. This does not include the extension to the north of the City or about one-fourth of the whole Island.

The sewage outfall is in the centre of the western foreshore and the windward of the whole City.

The sewage arrives at Love Grove in such a condition that even the fish cannot eat it. The population of Bombay, is about 1,000,000 and rapidly increasing. The tendency is to extend in a northerly direction. The systems of sewers however are all laid with a fall to Love Grove.

There is a foreshore from Mahaluxmi Temple to Mahim Causeway of 5 miles facing west, practically unbuilt upon and valueless for building purposes at present.

There are about 200 acres of land to the east of Hornby Vellard suitable for easy reclamation if the outfall and the sewage was removed which would form a magnificent City park, recreation ground, or for building.

The refuse loading siding at Mahaluxmi could gradually be done away with by providing incinerators or sidings and depots to destroy or remove the refuge direct from where it is collected in the City.

The question of the sewage outfall is an old and much talked of one. Some say that the out-fall should have been at Colaba but in spite of the favourable tides at Colaba Point, it is doubtful whether had the sewage being discharged into the sea at Colaba Point, Back Bay, Colaba, and the harbour would not have felt the same inconvenience that the Hornby Vellard, Cumballa Hill and Malabar Hill and Mahaluxmi and the western foreshore suffer from now.

DEFICIENT SANITARY SYSTEMS.

We are face to face with a deficient water supply and deficient sewage system. The extension of the City is certain. The question of the water supply and sewage system is before the Corporation. A constant supply of water upto 40 gallons per head per day is necessary. The rapid increase in the number of water closets in the City as modern sanitation is pushed forward, a large volume of sewage from the several parts of the City and from those which will soon be sewered and built upon and connected with sewers, means an increase in the sewage discharged at Love Grove and less chance of having the outfall removed in the future.

It is too late to consider a better outfall and by using the present Shone system and the existing pumps at Love Grove to lift the sewage at different places at a lesser height into a main sewer and so convey it to Deonar and there to treat it in septic tanks and filter beds and utilise the effluent on the reclaimed land by growing crops and discharging it into the sea north of Trombay. This is an engineering question but glancing at the map of Bombay in the report of the Port Trust, the site of Love Grove in the centre of the Island, its relation to the rest of the city will strike any observer of the unsuitability of the site for the discharge of all the present and all the future sewage of the Island of Bombay. The artifical height to which the sewage has to be forced by the Shone system and afterwards to gravitate to a well before it can be lifted into the sea is surely not sound engineering. The fault is not of to-day; but would it not be wiser to pause and consider whether the outfall at Deonar is not the proper one before drawing up any scheme for the extension of the City and before embarking on an outlay of Rs. 10,00,000 on new pumps which will not deal with the whole Island. The direction of the new sewers in the north of the Island is surely away from the centre of the City, rather than towards it.

In formulating a scheme for the development of the City the existing system of sewage disposal and water supply should be considered, 10 lakhs of rupees or £66,000 seems a large sum to invest in pumps to discharge sewage into the sea at an unsuitable spot but it is a small amount if properly spent to sewer the City and dispose of its sewage where it will not only be no nuisance but a source of profit, the land reclaimed being utilised by growing crops which is known to be a source of much revenue to the City.

My suggestions than are:—

Remove the outfall at the Love Grove to Deonar and render the area of 5 miles of western foreshore and the land behind it fit for magnificent building area.

Utilise the existing pumps and more if necessary at different parts of the island for lifting the sewage into a high level main.

Fill in land east of Hornby Vellard to Worlee Hillon the west from Cleik Road on the south to Haines Road on the north and the B. B. and C. I. Railway on the east.

Utilise both the railway lines for hauling the refuse from the city direct.

Erect incinerators to destroy part of the refuse.

Fill in the land north of Ferguson Road on both sides of the railway line north of the Island and get rid of this fever-producing area.

Abolish the B. B. and C. I. Railway from Grant Road to Colaba.

If this be done, there would be enough land for the upper, middle and labouring classes without any further reclamation of Back Bay for 30 years.

Make a wide road from Colaba along the seashore to Chowpatty.

Utilise the existing land occupied by the railway and Kennedy Sea Face for good houses and recreation ground like any other sea-side city in the world.

Use Queen's Road for Electric Trams from Church-Gate to Cumballa Hill via Girgaum.

Abolish the disused and over-crowded cemeteries on Queen's Road.

By removing the outfall at Love Grove and with an improved sewage system to remove the sewage from the City direct, the land would thus be made available and be utilised for building, and reducing the congested areas and widening the streets. The improved facilities for communication would induce enterprise and by competition compel owners of property to improve the style of buildings alongside of the lines of traffic, better houses and shops would be erected and not only the sanitary conditions of the City improved but Bombay would become the most beautiful City in the East."

BOMBAY UNIVERSITY SENATE.

The Springer Research Scholarship.

Last evening a meeting of the Bombay University Senate was held in the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall of the University, the Hon. Mr. F. G. Selby, the Vice-Chancellor, presiding.

DEGREES CONFERRED.

The first business before the Senate was the conferring of degrees on those of the students who were not presented with the same on the first Convocation day.

The Senate then passed a resolution giving effect to the recommendations of the Syndicate with regard to the assigning of the newly appointed Fellows to the different Faculties.

THE SPRINGER RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP.

The Senate considered the regulations submitted by the Syndicate for the award of the "Springer Research Scholarship." The following were the principal regulations: (1) The Springer Research Scholarship shall be open to all graduates of the University of Bombay. (2) Candidates for the scholarship must forward an application to the Registrar stating what line of original research they intend to prosecute with reference to any of the subjects hereinafter mentioned and where, and their qualifications for that line. (3) The Syndicate shall select for the scholarship from among the applicants such candidate as, in their opinion, has the necessary qualifications in the particular line of research chosen by him and has sufficient facilities at his disposal for the work. (4.) The Scholarship shall be tenable by any one scholar for a period of two years, provided that it shall be in the discretion of the Syndicate to extend that period. (5.) The scholarship shall be awarded alternately for a scientific subject, and a literary subject connected with Indian Archæology and Epigraphy, with special reference to historical research, or with Pali, Sanskrit, or Prakrit Scholarships, provided that when in any one year an eligible candidate is not, in the opinion of the Syndicate, available for the subject in which according to this rule, it has to be awarded, it shall be competent to the Syndicate to award it to an eligible candidate in the other or alternate subject. (6.) The conditions of tenure are: (a) that at the end of each year to which the scholarship relates the scholar shall submit to the Registrar a full report of the work of research done by him during that year; (b) that any paper written by him during the tenure of the scholarship upon any subject connected with the particular line of research chosen by him under these regulations shall, if published by him, be published only as a Springer Research Scholar of this University; (c) that his work during the tenure of the scholarship shall be subject to the supervision of a committee appointed by the Syndicate; and (d) that during the tenure of the Scholarship, at least once a year after the first year of his selection he shall read a paper on the particular subject of original research for which he has been selected, for the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. (7) The value of the Scholarship shall be Rs. 100 a month, payable in advance for every six months, and any surplus from the endowment shall, in the discretion of the Syndicate, be reserved for the expense of printing and the like connected with the objects of the Endowment.

On the motion of the Rev. Father Dreckmann, seconded by Rao Bahadur Nadkarni, the regulations were adopted.

AN HONORARY DEGREE FOR MR. SELBY.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Chandavarkar had given notice to move that approval be given to the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor and the Syndicate that the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws be conferred on the Hon. Mr. F. G. Selby on the ground that, he is in their opinion, by reason of eminent position and attainments, a fit and proper person to receive such a degree. As Mr. Justice Chandavarkar was unable to attend the meeting owing to indisposition, it was resolved on the motion of the Hon. Sir Pherozeshah M. Mehta, seconded by Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, to postpone the consideration of the proposition till the 9th April.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m. yesterday give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague Attacks.	Plague Deaths.	Total deaths from all causes
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	5	2	9
B Mandvi, Chakla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	12	8	21
C Market, Dhobi Talao Famaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao, and Kumbharwada	12	10	20
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar, and Mahaluxmi	4	2	11
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	19	12	50
F Parel, Sowree and Sion	4	4	16
G Mahim and Worli	1	1	16
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	1
Hospitals	0	5	21
Total	57	44	165
Total plague deaths to date	142,341		
Same date last year	111	97	194

SMALL-POX.

Attacks.	Deaths
28	18

THE RAT CAMPAIGN.

The following table shows the results of the rat campaign:—

MARCH, 20th 1908

Ward.	Alive.	Dead.	Found Infected.
A	98	38	8
B	68	113	27
C	49	181	64
D	50	90	7
E	47	81	16
F & G	55	0	0
Total to date	282	453	122
Total rats killed			735

THE "Spanish prisoner" has once more started business in the East, says a contemporary, Mr. F. Peliti, of Calcutta, having recently received a letter from him. He has changed his "modus operandi" slightly. Formerly he possessed a beauteous daughter and a portmanteau containing half a million or so, and the man who helped him to recover the portmanteau appropriated the daughter and half the fortune. Now his tale is much simpler. He is still a prisoner with 800,000 francs, and his baggage is under an embargo. But his daughter has now apparently deserted him. Perhaps she got sick of waiting for the husband who never turned up. At all events, she has gone and so has the prisoner's wife who was always a relative of the person whom he addressed. With an affecting simplicity he now tells you that he is in trouble, and asks you whether you will assist him. Until he receives your reply he hesitates to take you into his confidence or even to sign his name."

IT TAKES PURE RICH RED BLOOD COURSING THROUGH YOUR VEINS to face the Winter's Cold Successfully.

Every one needs to have their blood thoroughly cleansed and in good condition at the approach of winter, so we recommend to all

PROF. JAMES'

ELECTRO-TONIC PEARLS

As the greatest of tissue builders and rich-red-blood making tonics. It is the best general system tonic and rebuilder we have ever sold and we daily recommend it to all who are in the least run down, thin, tired out and appetite gone. If you think you need a vacation and a rest and can't take one, don't get blue and depressed, take Prof. James' Electro-Tonic Pearls and you will be surprised how soon you will pick up.

Their marvellous curative effects are manifested from the first day of their administration by a remarkable increase of Nerve and Intellectual Power, with a feeling of courage, strength and comfort. Digestion is invigorated, appetite increase wonderfully, bowels become regular, the brain again active, memory tenacious, bodily nourishment increased and energy restored. Price, Rs. 2 per bottle of 40 Pills. V. P. P. Extra.

Can be had of all Medicine Dealers. See that you get the genuine and don't accept substitute. If you find any difficulty in getting from your dealer, please send your order to THE ANGLO-INDIAN DRUG AND CHEMICAL Co. 155G Market Bombay, No.

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

Bombay "Government Gazette" March 19.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

The registration of Mr Shapurji Barjorji Bharucha of the post of Honorary Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, has been accepted.

Mr Mir Ahmed Ali Khan, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Broach, is granted privilege leave for one month and fifteen days with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr Vinayak Vithal Tilak, First Class Subordinate Judge, Satara, to be Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Poona, vice Mr Prabhakar Vithal Gupte, retiring.

Mr Manilal Haribal Vakil to be Second Class Subordinate Judge, Jalgaon.

Mr Dattatraya Ganesh Medhekar, on return from leave, to be Second Class Subordinate Judge, Nevasa and Shevgaon.

Mr Bhogilal Narandas Shah, on relief, to act as Second Class Subordinate Judge, Ankleshwar, vice Mr Manilal Harilal Vakil, pending further orders.

Mr Manilal Harilal Vakil, Second Class Subordinate Judge of Jalgaon, is invested with the jurisdiction of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such Courts up to the amount of Rs. 50.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Mr Gunvantrai Gulabrai Desai, Huzur Deputy Collector, Thana, is granted an extension by eighteen days of the privilege leave granted to him.

Mr Shankar Keshav Sathe, BA, to do duty as District Deputy Collector, Satara, pending further orders.

Mr Vinayak Krishna Namjoshi, BA, on return from leave, to be District Deputy Collector, Sholapur.

Mr Bhailal Purushottam Shah, LCE, to be Sixth Grade Deputy Collector vice Mr Sitaram Ganesh Patankar deceased; but to continue to be employed in the Ahmedabad Municipality.

Mr Jaimatram Raghuram Jokhagar, BA, to be substantive pro tem Sixth Grade Deputy Collector vice Mr Bhailal Purushottam Shah.

Mr Vinayak Appaji Gupte to be substantive pro tem Sixth Grade Deputy Collector vice Mr K Y Chantal confirmed, continuing to do duty as Huzur Deputy Collector, Ahmednagar.

Mr Dosabhoy Rustomji Mobedji to act as Sixth Grade Deputy Collector vice Mr V A Gupte in the leave vacancy of Mr Bhaskar to Ramchandra Heblikar, continuing to do duty as Native Assistant to the Commissioner, S D, pending further orders.

Mr Narayan Chintaman Pethe to act as Sixth Grade Deputy Collector in the leave vacancy of Mr Raghavendra P Bengiri, and to do duty as District Deputy Collector, Dharwar, pending further orders.

Mr Vishwanath Narayan Sathaye, on relief, to do duty as Personal Assistant to the Collector of Dharwar.

Khan Bahadur Manekji Kharsedji Nariman, B A, Assistant Secretary to Government, Revenue and Financial Departments, is allowed privilege leave for two months and seventeen days from 23rd March or the subsequent date on which he may be relieved.

Mr Rustam Bamansha Vakil, BA, LLB, to act as Assistant Secretary to Government, Revenue and financial Departments, during the absence on privilege leave of Khan Bahadur Manekji Kharsedji Nariman, BA, or pending further orders.

DIVINE SERVICE.

3RD SUNDAY, IN LENT, 22ND MARCH, 1908.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.

8 a. m.—Matins.
8-30 a. m.—Holy Communion—Choral—Agutter in G
9-30 a. m.—Litany.
Hymns—97, 250 and 317.
5-30 p.m.—Children's Service.
6-30 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.
Canticles—Woodward in A.
Hymns—268, 254 and 28.
Collections for—Cathedral Choir Fund.

Daily—Matins at 8-15 a. m. and Evensong at 5-45 p.m.
Daily—Holy Communion at 7-45 a. m.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, COLABA.
The Afghan Memorial Church.

8 a m—Holy Eucharist.
Hymns—261, 313 and 180.
11 a.m.—Parade Service.
Hymns—183, 184 and 197.
5-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
6-30 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.
Hymns—190, 259 and 264.

WEEK DAYS.
8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist—Wednesday 25th Annunciation B V M
8 p m—Lantern Service—Friday

CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, PAREL.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
Hymns—222, 223 and 359.
8-45 a.m.—Litany and Address.
Hymns—89 and 606.
6-30 p m—Evensong and Sermon.
Hymns—89, 235, 210, 255 and 710.
5-30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MAZAGON.
6-30 a m—Holy Eucharist.
7-15 a m—Matins and Litany.
8 am—Holy Eucharist—Choral—Preacher Rev Father Langmore
6-30 p.m.—Evensong—Choral—Preacher Rev Father Biscoe
Alms for Organ and Choir.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.
8 a.m.—Matins and Litany—Plain.
8-45 a m—Holy Communion—Choral.
6-30 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH.
Prince's Dock.
Daily, 8-30 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Sundays.
11 a.m.—Matins and Holy Communion.
6-30 p m—Evensong and Sermon.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon.
5-30 p.m.—Evening Prayer, Holy Communion and Sermon.
Collections for Church Expenses and Poor

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MALABAR HILL.
8 a.m.—Matins.
8-30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
6-30 p.m.—Evensong.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.
11 a. m.—Morning Service.
6-30 p.m.—Evening Service.
Psalm—21
Hymns—25, 197, and 454.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, COLABA CAUSEWAY.
8-30 a.m.—Parade Service—Preacher Rev A J Reynell.
5 p.m.—Sunday School.
6-30 p.m.—Divine Service—Preacher, C Ryder Smith, B A.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, VICTORIA GARDENS.
10 a.m.—Divine Service—Preacher Rev C Ryder Smith, B.A.
5 p.m.—Sunday School.
6-30 p.m.—Divine Service—Preacher Rev A J Reynell.

BAPTIST CHURCH, BELASIS ROAD.
Opposite Byculla Club.
9 a m and 6-30 pm—Sunday Services—Preacher Mr S H Kearsey

CHURCH OF ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR,
Bandra Hill.
11-15 a m—Matins and Sermon
Hymns—90, 107 and 217

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LT.-COL. LOUIS P. RUSSELL COMMANDING, B. V. A.

Bombay, March 21.

440 CARTER & INTER CO. CUP.

The Competitions for the Carter and Inter Company.
Company Challenge Cups will take place at Colaba on Sunday the 29th instant. Firing to commence at 9 a m. Drawing for places at 8-45 a.m.

R. W. R. PENNINGTON, Capt.,
Adjt., B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. R. W. L. DUNLOP COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, March 21.

113 Rifle Meeting—It is notified for information that the following Matches will be fired as under:—

Sunday the 22nd—Team Match No 13 Marching competition Parade at Kurla at 6-45 a m conditions will be found on page 21 A R M Programme.
Monday the 23rd—Bayley Challenge Cup.
Tuesday the 24th—The Nicholson Challenge Cup.
Wednesday the 25th—Team Match No 12 Marching competition for Cadets. Parade at Kurla at 6-45 a m conditions will be found on page 20 A R M Programme.

A. L. CARTWRIGHT, Capt.,
Adjt., B. V. R.

WHEN IT HAPPENS AGAIN.

A thing may occur once, and we do not notice it; or twice or thrice; but when it happens again, and physicians and neighbours tell us of it, then we cannot overlook it any longer. It is good fortune for us to hear such encouraging news as the following from one of our doctors:—

Dr. S. B. Kulkarni, I. R. C. P., Dispensary, Sitaram Building, New Nagpada St., says:—I have prescribed Doan's Backache Kidney Pills and find them to act admirably as a diuretic, relieve backache, burning sensation of urine. In short, they are very useful in all such complaints.

If you would be well you must keep the kidneys well. These Pills are for this purpose. Symptoms of kidney trouble are backache, swelling of the lower limbs, neuralgia, rheumatism, dizziness, sleeplessness and irregular action of the heart, caused by urinary impurities in the blood, which the kidneys fail to remove.

Sold by medicine dealers who will not offer something else for the sake of a larger profit, at Rs. 2 per bottle, or 6 for Rs. 10-8-0, or from Doan's Medicines, P. O. Box 20, Bombay.

If you mention this paper your order will be sent postage and packing free.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE steamer Newbridge, 2,397 tons, Captain E Delly arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta with a cargo of coal.

THE B I S N Co's steamer Lhasa, 936 tons Captain W H Rothwell, sailed yesterday for Karachi, with a general cargo and passengers,

THE Clan Line steamer Clan Macneil, 2,504 tons, Captain W M Porterfield, will sail to-day for Chittagong, with the same bottom cargo.

THE Hall Line steamer Trafford Hall, 3,436 tons, Captain W H Hood, will sail to-day for Antwerp via Karachi, with a general cargo.

THE steamer Sultan Van Langkat, 2,292 tons, Captain J Leberg arrived in harbour yesterday from Rangoon with a cargo of bulk oil.

THE steamer Westfield, 2,192 tons, Captain W Story, arrived in harbour yesterday from Cardiff, with a cargo of coal.

MEN-OF-WAR & ROYAL INDIAN MARINE SHIPS.

IN GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD.

H M S Sphinx ..... Comdr Litchfield ..... R Navy
H M S Lapwing ..... Lt.-Comdr A N Gouldsmith ..... R Navy
H M S Redbreast ..... Lt Comdr W Hose ..... R Navy

IN THE STREAM.

H M S Hyacinth ..... Capt A W Heneage ..... R Navy
H M S Perseus ..... Comdr H Christian ..... R Navy
R I M S Dufferin ..... Comdr De Berry ..... R I Marine

VESSELS IN DOCK—MAR. 20.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Vessel.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
A Clan MacNeil	2504	Porterfield	Chittagong	22-3	F Muir & Co
B Devanha	4785	Hide	Shanghai	18-2	P & O S N Co
C&R Trafford Hall	3436	Hood	Kobe	21-3	K Nixon & Co
D&E Havralee	3549	Lemoine	Havre	22-3	K Nixon & Co
G Mozaffari	1367	Moloney	R S Ports	23 3	P S N Co
K Kageshima Maru	3378	Arakawa	Kobe	22-3	N Y Kaisha
M Persia	4198	Powell	London	28-3	P & O Co
P Clan Cumming	3107	Williamson	Antwerp	28-3	F Muir & Co

H W P D

Panani	532	Shamsoodin	B'Nsjar	21-3	B S N Co
Sabarmati	524	Fakeera	M'glore	20-3	B S N Co

VICTORIA DOCK.

1 Scindia	3763	Kelso	L'pool	26-3	W & A G & Co
2 Circassia	4315	Hale	L'pool	18-3	W & A G & Co
3 Weimanfel	2948	Sulbi	Hamburg	21-3	Glade & Co
6 F Clan Macdonga	12976	Sterling	Dunkirk	27-3	F Muir & Co
7 China	3805	Petris	Kobe	26 3	A L S N Co
8 Africa	3915	Barbaich	Trieste	1-4	A L S N Co
9 City of London	5693	Hack	L'pool	24-3	K Nixon & Co
10&11 Querimba	4247	Smith	M Mackenzie & Co		
12 Oceana	3597	Hayward	China	31-3	P & O Co
15 Kageshima Maru	2781	Kori	Kobe	1-4	N Y Kaisha
16 Sultan	1781	Ulrich	Z'bar	27-3	A Strandes

ARRIVALS.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
20	Newbridge s	Delly	Calcutta, Mar 7
	Westfield s	Story	Cardiff, Feb 14
	Sultan Van Langkat s	Leberg	Rangoon, Mar 8
	Caledonia s	Peters	Aden March 16

DEPARTURE.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
20	Lhasa s	Rothwell	Karachi

The following vessels obtained their portclearances yesterday:—
Steamer Trafford Hall Hood for Antwerp &c,
Clan Macneil Porterfield Chittagong

The following vessels began to load yesterday.
Steamer City of Vienna for Hull and Dunkirk
" Peninsular for Aden
" Hild for Bangkok &c
" Austria for Trieste &c
" Africa for Trieste

MADRAS.

ARRIVALS.

March.	Vessel.	From
14	Clan Forbes	Liverpool
	Shirley	Calcutta
15	Nonsuch	Calcutta
17	Bharata	Rangoon
	Gwalior	Negapatam

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

THE B I S N Steamer China arrived at Port Said on morning of the 19th instant.

DAILY EXPORTS.—MARCH 20.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Scindia s—15 bales wool, F F Campbell and Co; 4,000 cwts cotton seed, Volkart Bros; 50 bales cotton, and 4,000 cwts cotton seed, Ralli Bros; 120 bales wool, N Ramjidas, 600 cwts wheat sweeping, Harry Kanji, 30 bales wool, B Hurbharam, 17 bales wool, M Vullu.
City of London s—1,625 cwts myrabollams, Arjoon Khimji.

FOR GLASGOW,

Scindia s—1,020 cwts myrabollams. Arjoon Khimji.

FOR LONDON.

Persia s—110 cwts horns, G Mahomed, ½ cwts ivory, A Ahmed, 3 cases condiments J Joveri and Co.

FOR NEW YORK.

Persia s—20 cwts gum, 10 cwts chashew nuts, 6 cwts jambulseeds, 20 cwts herbs, Nusserwanji Bros and Co.

FOR ANTWERP.

Clan Cumming s—110 bales cotton, Volkart Bros; 110 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co; 17 bales twist, Schroder Smidt and Co; 400 cwt horns, B Esmail. 340 bales cotton, Ralli Brothers.
Clan Macdongall s—200 bales hemp R Reeve

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

LONDON, MARCH 6.

AN IRISH HORSE.

It was after midnight when I hailed the hansom in the rain-swept square (writes "P."), and the cabby stirred himself with the eagerness of one who meets unhoped for fortune. As we went through the wet desolation of the street I began to note the curious gait of the horse. It was something between a lurch and a roll, and suggested that he regarded the cab as an encumbrance that might be got rid of by shaking. "Rather a lurcher isn't he?" I shouted through the hole above my head. "That 'orse, sir," shouted the cabby from above, "thinks 'isself a cut above a cab. 'E's a saddle 'orse by rights—from Galway, in Ireland. 'E's beautiful to ride; safe as a cradle" (here he nearly skidded the cab over in a tramline). "But, bless you, there's no opening for saddle 'orses here. I shall lend 'im to the Volunteers to take to camp in the summer—then 'e'll be 'appy." I live in a new district where the roads are unmade ("unconsecrated" a humorous neighbour said). The cab-horse came to a big rut and stood still. "I'll 'ave to lead 'im, sir," said the cabby; "if I give in to 'im now 'e'll 'ave the upper and for ever." He got down, whereupon the horse spurted off and left him in the mud. He was an Irish horse.

RETURNING TO WOAD.

It is announced that the Russian Government is about to place an order for 7,000,000 yards of army cloth with manufacturers in the West Riding, and that all the cloth is to be woaded. In insisting upon this requirement the Russians are following the example of our own Government, for much cloth supplied to the State is treated with woad. So also, as a rule, are policemen's uniforms. The use of woad juice as a dye dates back to the early history of this country for, as everybody knows, the ancient Briton adorned his person with it. Since the introduction of indigo its popularity has decreased steadily, and now the woad-growing industry, is confined to the neighbourhood of Boston, in Lincolnshire, and Wisbech, in Cambridgeshire. Manufacturers of the present day find chemical dyes less costly, but the superiority of woad is recognised by its use in expensive cloths; it imparts a fine finish and a colour that will never fade. The woad-growing industry is a close monopoly; the seed is guarded with jealous care and never sold to outsiders. The plant is grown in the open fields; it reaches a height of about four feet, and has a pretty yellow flower. The crop is gathered between August and November. The plants are crushed in the woad factories by heavy wheels worked by steam or (in the older mills) by horse-power. After being subjected to a process of fermentation the woad is "balled," and the balls are exposed to the wind for several weeks in the drying sheds. Later they are broken up and reduced to a coarse powder, and eventually the woad is sold in the form of a stiff paste contained in casks.

SATURN DEVELOPING ANOTHER RING.

Some exceptional feature have characterised the recent disappearance of the rings of Saturn, resulting from the sun and the earth being temporarily on opposite sides of the ring plane. Though theoretically invisible, several reliable observers, during the past three months, saw the rings as a thin line of light, and it has been suggested this was due to the sun shining between the divisions. From America, too, came the sensational announcement that the rings were "condensing" and falling in on Saturn itself; and now comes a report that M. Fournier, observing from the Puy-de-Dome, France, has seen "a faint, transparent, and luminous ring out side the exterior ring," which has not before been noticed. Should this new Saturnian appendage be real, instead of the old rings breaking up, they would appear to have developed another member of their wonderful system.

WHERE PERSIMMON GOT HIS NAME.

When the late lamented Persimmon won the Derby many learned people were puzzled to know where King Edward had procured this curious name. It was, of course, derived from "de ole simmon-tree" of nigger minstreley, the date-plums of which are now found quite frequently in fruiterers' shops. The date-plums of the persimmon do not appear to appeal to British palates, being too astringent; but they lose this fault when mellowed, like medlars, by frost. Among the negroes of the Southern States the "'simmons" hold high honour; they are made, mixed with bran, into savoury cakes, which are sometimes fermented into a kind of beer.

THE COALFILDS OF NATAL.

The recent colliery disaster at Glencoe, Natal, serves to remind one that the "Garden Colony" is now to be reckoned among the coal-producing countries of the world. The latest figures show that the amount raised during 1907 was 1,530,000 tons. Over sixty years ago the Secretary of State for the Colonies drew the attention of Sir George Napier, then Governor of the Colony, to the value of Natal's coal deposits, and dwelt on the utmost importance of the supply to "steam navigation in the adjacent seas." Over 7,000 hands are employed at the mines, of whom 400 are whites. As the coal consists mainly of surface deposits none of the shafts are more than 200ft. in depth. Recently a trade has sprung up with America and India.

A RECOLLECTION OF CHARLOTTE BRONTE.

There is still living at Birstall an old man named Joseph Marsden Dixon who has clear remembrance of Charlotte Bronte. When Mr. Dixon was a boy—he is now well over eighty—Charlotte Bronte used to come to Birstall to see her friend Miss Ellen Nussey, who lived near Mr. Dixon's home. "She wor a 'lowish' woman (said Mr. Dixon to an interviewer this week), and her eyes they looked a long way into her head. . . . She was thought nought about at that day. She and Miss Nussey used to walk out together in the wood behind where Wesleydale Hill stands now." It is close upon fifty-three years since Charlotte Bronte died.

COMMERCIALISM IN COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

A vigorous appeal for the reform of college athletics in the United States has been made by Dr. David Starr Jordan, President of Leland Stanford University. According to a correspondent of the "Methodist Times," he denounces the American form of football as a game which puts a premium on brute strength and is devoid of sportsmanlike qualities. He declares that practically all the large Universities with the exception of Harvard an Cornell, employ questionable methods in securing athletes. Chicago has received with open arms and athlete who failed to pass the entrance requirements of Wisconsin. Chicago and Yale both give scholarships to men of athletic ability. Yale furnishes athletes with agencies for cigarettes and tobacco sub-agents do the work, while the athlete draws the salary. "We must do one of two things," concludes President Jordan. "We must get away from commercialism or stop playing football."

SOME FIERY NUPTIALS.

One is becoming quite familiar with watery weddings, but fiery nuptials, such as those of which Hexborough Church, near Doncaster, was the scene a day or two ago, when the firemen had to suspend their work with the hose during the ceremony, are still somewhat of a novelty. A few years ago, one recalls, a similar scene was witnessed in St. Nicholas, Church, Strood, near Rochester. A fire broke out in the belfry tower; bells and roof collapsed, and the tower was completely gutted. Just as the flames were at last being subdued a bridal party entered the church, and the nuptial knot was tied to an accompaniment of swishing hoses and showers of sparks. An equally romantic wedding took place not long ago at West Orchard Congregational Church, Coventry. The church had been almost destroyed by fire, the roof had fallen in, and the building lay in ruins. And yet, while the wreckage was still smouldering, an undaunted couple were united amid the debris of the fire in one of the remaining aisles.

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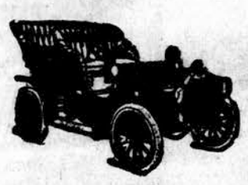
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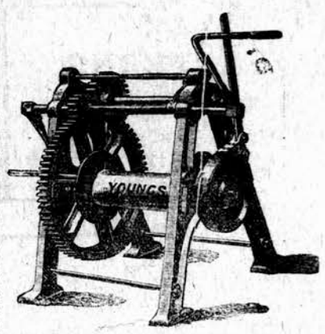

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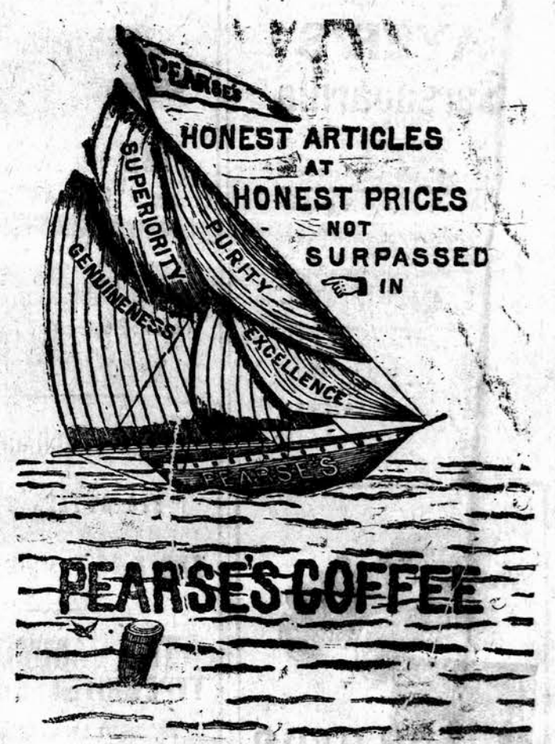

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